

Tory MEPs protest at Thatcher restraint on pre-election spending

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

The Prime Minister has upset Conservative members of the European Parliament, at a sensitive time, by trying to restrict spending of Community funds on promoting next year's elections to the parliament.

The Conservatives are entitled to spend about £2.5m of Community money, on the authority of the parliament, to spread information about its workings in advance of the elections, to be held on June 14.

They are not allowed to spend the funds on campaigning, and the parliament's rules stipulate that the expenditure must cease 40 days before polling by May 5.

But Mrs Margaret Thatcher is insisting that the spending from Community funds must stop much earlier. On her behalf the party chairman, Mr John Gummer, has proposed to the 60 British Conservative MEPs that the cut-off date should be March 14.

The group thinks that would be foolish, and its feelings are aggravated by the more serious complaint that they are out of touch with Mrs Thatcher and

unable to influence her attitudes.

She has not met the MEPs as a group since March and has no plans to meet them again, although in its view and that of some of the Prime Minister's advisers it is in her interests that they should fully share her thinking and she theirs.

Their role at Strasbourg in the next few weeks, when the parliament is bound to reconsider whether to freeze Britain's promised rebate, may be crucial.

Yet some MEPs complained yesterday that the Prime Minister was "trying to run them through Mr Gummer, by remote control". This was not good enough.

The Prime Minister's motives in restricting pre-election expenditure appear mixed. Her habitual reluctance to spend public money seems to be the main one. But she also fears that the electorate may think it unfair that the Conservatives have far more to spend than other British parties.

BSC losses cut to £2.6m a week

By John Lawless

British Steel's losses of well over £1m a day at the beginning of this year have been cut by almost-three-quarters. They are now said to be running at £2.6m a week.

That compares with £9m a week for January, and a figure of £3.5m a week quoted only last month by the BSC's new chairman, Mr Robert Haslam, when writing in *Steel News*. Mr Haslam based his figure on an annual rate of loss of £180m since April.

But BSC said when declaring its latest results yesterday, the obvious improvement in performance had to be balanced against "the fragility of prices throughout Europe", which will increase its trading losses in the second half of the year.

For the six months to the end of September, losses were £73m on home orders of £1.057m and exports of £377m. That was more than half the £156m deficit for the same period of 1982, when turnover was slightly higher.

Confusion on Varley successor

By Philip Webster
Political Reporter

Mr Eric Varley, the former Labour Cabinet minister who is to leave the Commons to go into business, is also to give up his post of treasurer of the Labour Party in January.

There was confusion over his likely successor last night after Mr Sam McCuskie, treasurer and assistant general secretary of the National Union of Seamen, said that he would accept nomination for the post.

Labour Party headquarters made clear, however, that under the party constitution Mr Albert Booth, the former MP whom Mr Varley beat in the election for treasurer, should accept automatically.

The constituency states that any vacancy in any division of the national executive should be filled by the cooption of the unsuccessful candidate in that division who had most votes. That would clearly be Mr Booth and party officials have been given to understand that he would be interested in the post.

The BSC half-yearly statement declares: "The need for an effective European steel regime, to maintain discipline in the market, and the exchange rates for sterling continue to be critical to the achievements of targets for the year."

BBC staff attack Dimbleby

By Our Labour Reporter

Journalists at BBC Television yesterday condemned Mr David Dimbleby, the broadcaster and owner of the *Richmond and Twickenham Times*, for taking their union to court.

The television news branch of the National Union of Journalists (NUJ) backed the union's national executive in defying an injunction granted to Mr Dimbleby to stop an NUJ strike at his newspaper group.

The union is expected to appeal to the House of Lords.

Journalists at Mr Dimbleby's papers are on strike because he transferred printing of the titles to the non-union TBF Printers, which is associated with T. Bailey Forman with whom the NUJ has a long-standing dispute.

Nott attacks Pym for 'pessimistic' speech

By Our Political Reporter

Sir John Nott, the former Cabinet minister, yesterday accused Mr Francis Pym of a misleading reading of his controversial Oxford speech calling for wiser political leadership.

Sir John, now a director of Lazard Brothers, the merchant bank, retired from Parliament in June. He made an unusually strong personal criticism of Mr Pym in a speech to the City Liaison Group.

He said that Mr Pym had encapsulated in his speech "that most damaging post-war contribution of the British establishment pessimism". If the flame of public confidence had just begun to flicker, Sir John said, "Francis seems to do his best to douse it."

He said the happiest moment of his political career had been when Mrs Margaret Thatcher became the party leader, and he

NGA and Shah resume peace talks

From Paul Rowledge, Labour Editor, Manchester

Peace talks aimed at ending the closed shop disputes between the National Graphical Association and Messenger Group Newsagents restarted in Manchester last night.

Mr Selim ("Eddie") Shah is due back in the High Court tomorrow to pursue further complaints against the NGA which could result in heavy new fines against the print union for last week's violent picketing in Warrington, Cheshire.

The negotiations, at the

Manchester office of the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas), were being conducted by Mr Pat Lowry, the service's chairman, whose team of conciliators shuttled between the free sheet newspaper publishers and union officials demanding the reinstatement of six men and the establishment of a closed shop.

As they went into the talks the two parties were guarded in their comments about a suc-

cessful outcome. Mr Tony Dabbing, general secretary-elect of the NGA, said: "The company made a statement last night saying they were encouraged by the progress, and we are very reassured by their statement."

Mr Shah said that he was hoping to meet the union face to face for the first time in the present round of peace talks, but he confirmed that his court action against the union was going ahead.

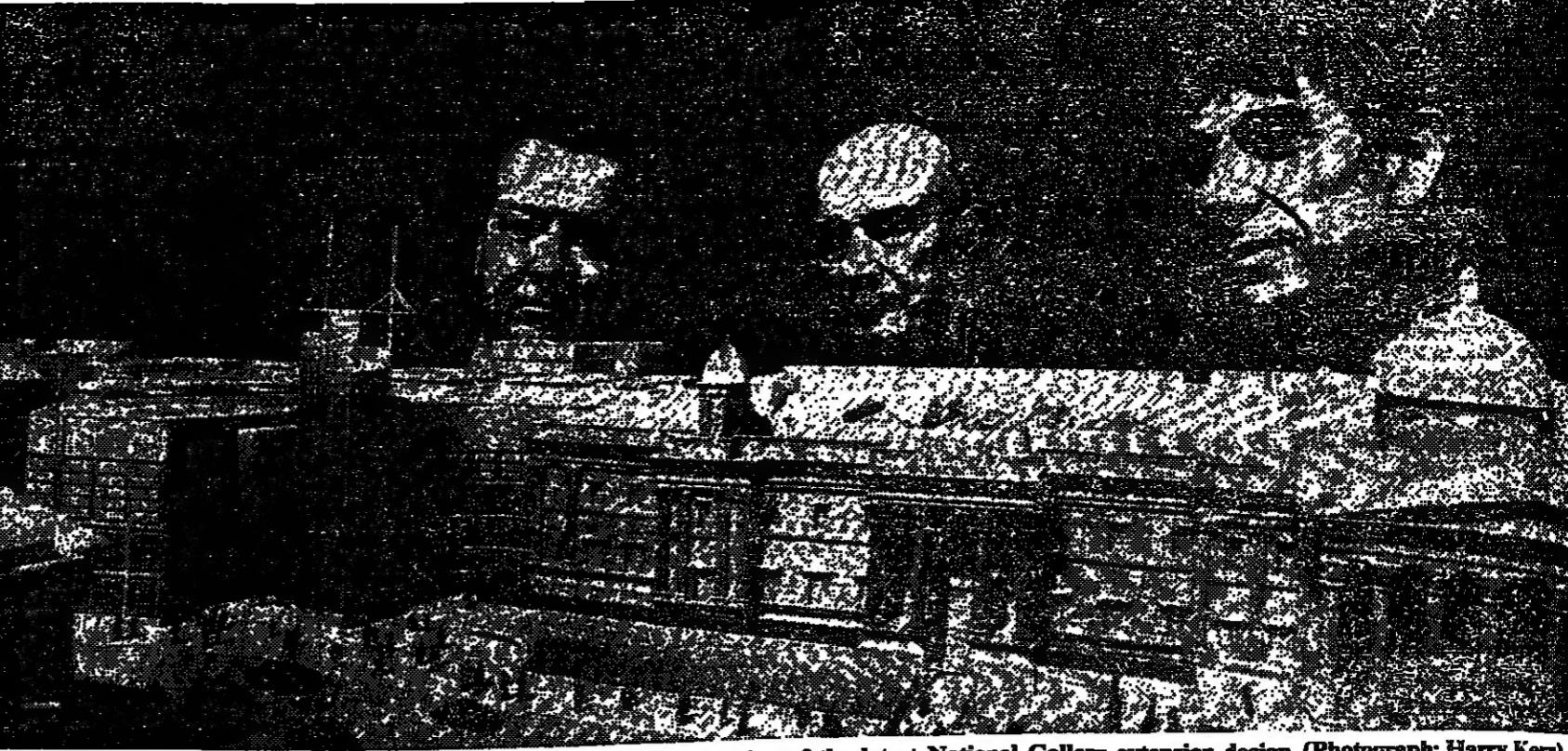
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GULF AIR
Spread your wings



Mr Nigel Brookes, Lord Annan and Mr Peter Ahrends at the unveiling of the latest National Gallery extension design (Photograph: Harry Kerr).

Another new look for National Gallery

By John Young

A new and possibly final plan for the long delayed National Gallery extension was made public yesterday.

It consists of 17 galleries, linked to the main gallery floor of the present building, with three floors of offices underneath, one of them below ground level.

The design is by the architects Ahrends, Burton and Koralek, who were nominated by the Government last year to produce a new scheme after a controversial and indecisive competition. The gallery trustees made it clear at the time that they favoured a rival design by Skidmore, Owings and Merrill, but they were overruled by a majority decision of the judging panel.

The latest plan, which bears obvious signs of a compromise, incorporates a so-called tower of less than 100 ft, surmounted by an aluminium mast intended to complement the spire of St Martin in the Fields nearby.

It also includes a circular internal courtyard and sunken garden, which are said to have found favour with the assessors and the public at the time the competition designs were on view. The external walls

would be clad in Bath and Portland stone and in glass.

The prospective developers are Trafalgar House, whose chairman, Mr Nigel Brookes, said that his firm would probably occupy the lower floors.

Trafalgar House will apply to Westminster City Council for planning permission next week. The application will then be called in by Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, and a public inquiry is scheduled for next April.

Lord Annan, chairman of the trustees and formerly a strong

supporter of the Skidmore design, said yesterday that he hoped the extension could be completed by the end of 1987.

The trustees had expressed reservations about the stepped profile of the top of the tower and the mast structure above it, he said. But they were entirely satisfied with the space provided for the gallery and the layout of the rooms, which would house its collection of Early Renaissance paintings, probably the finest and most representative in the world.

No one satisfied, page 12

40 held as Nalgo homes talks collapse

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

At least 40 demonstrators were arrested in London yesterday as talks to prevent mass closure of homes for children, the elderly and the handicapped at Christmas collapsed.

As part of a "day of action" thousands of people lobbied negotiations between leaders of 25,000 residential social workers and local authorities.

Police clashed with the demonstrators, members of the National and Local Government Officers' Association (Nalgo), stopping them from marching into Belgrave Square, where talks were being held, and the arrests were made.

The breakdown in the talks means the homeless face a Christmas of severe disruption. Last night Nalgo said it would press ahead with a ballot of members seeking to extend action which already includes stoppages and closures.

The workers are voting on whether to restrict working to a nine-to-five, five-day week throughout Britain. Nalgo is confident there will be a mandate for fresh disruption.

Employers made what they regarded as a concession yesterday by offering to include

French milk meets a sales veto

By David Hewson

The consignment of long life milk from France that has been the subject of dairy industry protests has been allowed to enter Britain but the importer has been told that it must not be offered for sale yet.

Tests conducted on the milk since it arrived at Newhaven, East Sussex, last Thursday are understood to have shown that it contains too much water. The importers have promised not to sell the milk until further analysis can be carried out.

Newhaven port controller said that the importers of the 20,000 litres of semi-skimmed milk had been told that selling it would contravene the Food and Drugs Act.

The employers argue that the claim would increase the wage bill for workers in the homes by 50 per cent and they cannot afford it.

A Nalgo spokesman said last night he was sure that members would vote for the action and that the employers could not negotiate because they were acting under government instruction.

Nalgo estimated that about 15,000 demonstrated yesterday "which showed the strength of feeling among the membership". The police put estimated numbers at 6,500.

Nuclear film needs no reply, IBA says

By David Hewson

The Independent Broadcast-

ing Authority will not provide any other right of reply to balance the nuclear disaster film

The Day After if Mr Michael Heseltine does not take part in the discussion which will follow screening of the programme on Saturday.

The authority regards the film as fiction which does not require other material to provide balance.

Mr Heseltine, the Secretary of State for Defence, has objected to the United States programme because it says it misrepresents nuclear deterrence, and he has written to the IBA asking for the opportunity to redress the bias.

Yorkshire Television has invited him to appear in the discussion programme, but it is understood that he is pressing to appear in a separate interview immediately after the film is screened.

• Few of Britain's houses will remain standing after a major nuclear attack, according to a report which casts strong doubt on the Government's civil defence policy (Pat Healy writes).

The report, from the Building and Social Housing Foundation, based in Coalville, Leicestershire, says that most houses will be destroyed or rendered uninhabitable by blast and fire.

It says existing houses can provide only limited protection

Deterrence could prevent nuclear attack or nuclear blackmail, he states, whereas disarmament by one side would leave it with no effective defence.

Leading article, page 13

£14,000 for steer

The supreme champion of the Smithfield Show, a cross-bred Charolais-Aberdeen Angus steer weighing 1,250lb, was auctioned yesterday for £14,000, equal to last year's record price. The animal was owned by Mr John Lascelles, of Carnoustie, Angus.

Mr Lascelles, who was bidding for the animal, said: "I am very pleased with the result."

Coach driver in M5 death crash fined £385

Speaker's new suit

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

The Speaker of the House of Commons, Mr Bernard Weatherill, wearing the new court dress suit presented to him yesterday by the Federation of Merchant Tailors. Mr Weatherill is a former tailor.

Shell peace move

Craftsmen at Shell's refinery in Hanlow, Cheshire, voted yesterday to end their eight-week wage dispute and return to work tomorrow unless their transport union colleagues, meeting today, reject the 6.2 per cent offer.

TV home fire

Fire yesterday destroyed the council house in Reading, Berkshire, of the Wilkins family, who appeared in yesterday's documentary, *The Family*, now being repeated on BBC 2. Mr Christopher Wilkins, aged 19, was seriously injured jumping from a window.

This proved quite the wrong

policy as the younger player was continually finding better moves than his adversary, and when Korchnoi resigned on the forty-sixth move Kasparov had taken only one hour and twenty minutes, as against his opponent's two hours and twelve minutes.

So the score was Kasparov 4, Korchnoi 3.

Sevenfold game

White Kasparov, Black Korchnoi

Q.G. Catalan System

1 P-Q4 N-B3 24 P-Q4 N-B3

3 P-K4 P-Q4 25 B-N5 P-K4

4 P-B4 P-B4 26 B-N5 P-B4

5 P-Q5 P-Q5 27 B-N5 P-Q5

6 P-B5 P-B5 28 B-N5 P-B5

7 P-Q6 P-Q6 29 B-N5 P-Q6

8 Q-Q2 P-Q2 30 B-N5 P-Q2

9 B-Q3 P-Q3 31 B-N5 P-Q3

10 P-Q7 P-Q7 32 B-N5 P-Q7

11 P-B6 P-B6 33 B-N5 P-B6

12 P-Q8 P-Q8 34 B-N5 P-Q8

13 P-B7 P-B7 35 B-N5 P-B7

14 P-Q9 P-Q9 36 B-N5 P-Q9

15 P-B8 P-B8 37 B-N5 P-B8

16 P-Q10 P-Q10 38 B-N5 P-Q10

17 P-B9 P-B9 39 B-N5 P-B9

18 P-Q11 P-Q11 40 B-N5 P-Q11

Social trends: 1

Nation of greater material wealth but less emotional stability

By Nicholas Timmins

A nation with more divorce, more illegitimate births, more people living alone, and a wider income between unemployed and employed families emerge today from *Social Trends*, the Government's annual view of British life.

But the Central Statistical Office's compendium also shows a small rise in real incomes last year and more people owning their houses and deep-freezes, colour televisions, dishwashers, washing machines and cars.

The statistics show a steady rise in illegitimate births, to 14 per cent of the total in England and Wales last year against 6 per cent in 1961, and among teenage mothers the number of illegitimate births outstripped legitimate births for the first time, 29,000 against 27,000. Many of these, however, were jointly registered by both parents: 46 per cent against 34 per cent in 1975.

More people are living together before marriage: 21 per cent of partners up to the age of 34 marrying for the first time in the period 1979 to 1981, against 8 per cent between 1970 and 1974.

The marriage rate has continued to decline, but the divorce rate after dipping in 1981 rose again last year to 159,000, almost double the number of a decade earlier.

The desire to try again remains common, however. Nearly a quarter of women aged under 35 who separated between 1970 and 1974 had remarried within three years, and 32 per cent had done so within six years.

The increase in divorce and illegitimate births means the proportion of lone parents with dependent children has doubled from 2.5 per cent in 1961 to almost 5 per cent last year.

The percentage of people living alone has also increased in the same period, from 4 per cent to 9 per cent. That rise is chiefly due to the increase in widows and widowers among those over 65, whose numbers are expected to remain fairly steady until the year 2000, but with a steep increase in those aged over 75 and 85.

Nearly half of women aged over 65 now live alone, against a third in 1959. The number of men over 65 living alone has almost doubled to 21 per cent, "Living alone does not necessarily equate with loneliness, but almost certainly it tends to", the report says.

While real spending in pensioner households has risen by 40 per cent since 1959, the gains made by pensioners have almost certainly failed to match those enjoyed by the rest of the population, the report says in a special section on the elderly.

However, "it is now unusual to find an elderly person without a television set or a refrigerator or a washing machine and more than half have a telephone, a rare piece of apparatus in the homes of elderly people in 1959".

The report also shows that unemployment tends increasingly to be concentrated in families. Between 1976 and 1982 it has become increasingly less likely for the unemployed head of a household to have another worker in the family, while for the employed it has become more likely.

Relatively fewer households kept pets in 1982 than in 1959 with only dogs maintaining their popularity, while cats, budgerigars and other pets lost favour.

Social Trends 14, Central Statistical Office (Stationery Office, £19.95).

British at play: Hard-drinking sportsmen

By Kenneth Geilley

Leisure last year was dominated by outdoor activities, more people taking part in sports such as squash, swimming and tennis than going to greyhound or horse races, football or cricket matches.

Many so-called minority sports were much more popular in 1971; badminton, for example, had 109,000 club players against 66,000 in 1971, while there were 50,000 amateur boxers, an increase of 20,000.

When Britons were not chasing shuttlecocks or knocking the stuffing out of each other, they were spending most of their spare cash on drink, topping the list in all income rates.

As they enjoyed their favourite tipple, they spent less time watching television and more listening to the radio.

The report says the largest increase between 1976 and 1982 was in listening to independent local radio, which doubled over the period, reflecting not only increased popularity but the rise in the number of local stations.

But BBC national radio networks still accounted for most listening time. Radio 1 was the most popular service with 15.4 per cent of the

population aged four years and over listening on an average day. Independent radio had the second largest audience, with 13.7 per cent.

In June this year the average television viewer watched BBC1 for nearly an hour a day, BBC2 for 20 minutes, independent television for just under an hour, and 10 minutes and Channel 4 for only six minutes.

Going out to be entertained proved less popular. Only 60

attendances at sporting events

	1982 (000s)	1971 (000s)
Football League matches		
English	18,700	28,700
Wales	2,900	4,200
Greyhound racing	5,200	6,200
Motor sports	4,000	n/a
Horse racing	3,700	4,200
Motorcycle sports	3,000	n/a
Rugby League	1,668	1,170
Test county cricket	782	84
Promotional cricket	750	700
Basketball:		
England	257	2
Scotland	47	9

*Football attendance figures are for the 1980-3 season. 1971-2 figures are for the 1970-1 season. Greyhound racing attendances break down to Division 1, 9,296m (14,485m); Div 2, 4,975m (6,769m); Div 3, 2,344m (4,657m); Div 4, 1,532m (2,749m). 1971-2 figures in parentheses.

**Excluding speedway

Cinema attendances

	1982	1971
Cinemas screens	1,452	1,482
Admissions	60.2m	75m
Average charge	177.4p	34.3p

The number of cinemas has fallen from 1,452 in 1971 to 1,482 last year, but the number of screens has remained almost constant with the advent of multi-screen complexes.

Source: Department of Trade and Industry

Holidays

	1982	1971
Holidays taken by residents of Great Britain		
In Great Britain	33	34
Abroad	14	7

*Four or more days away from home considered by the respondent to be a holiday.

Source: British Tourist Authority

million cinema tickets were sold in 1982, about 65 per cent down on 1971.

A full house at bingo was also becoming rarer. The number of clubs fell every year from 1978; in that year there were 1,775; last year 1,556. The amount staked on bingo fell from £491m to £464m between 1981 and 1982.

Tomorrow: Education What people earn, page 17

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Sales boom may save post offices

By Bill Johnstone
Electronics Correspondent

The success of counter services created by the Post Office in the past year, including the sale of bus passes, travellers' cheques and items from mail order catalogues, could reprise many of the post offices threatened with closure because of unprofitability.

The new services will be crucial to the Post Office's decision to close 1,609 of the 9,333 town sub-post offices. The decisions on these findings, the result of a three-month Post Office study, are to be made in the new year. The survey was the first comprehensive one on post offices to be conducted in 20 years.

About 269 main offices are believed to be marginal in their commercial performance, with 172 making a loss.

More than 2.5 million bus passes are now being sold every year through post offices. In London one million pensioners' passes are sold, while about the same number for all age groups are being sold in West Yorkshire.

The Post Office has introduced the new services to compensate for revenue lost through the decision two years ago to pay social security benefits directly by cheque.

Customers can now order goods from some mail order catalogues at post offices using the Transcash service, and extension of Girobank.

Items advertised in special television campaigns can now be purchased at post offices through a service called Teleshop. These goods include general household products and have been advertised in the Grampian, Border, Tyne-Tees, Yorkshire and Television South-West regions.

"I have apologized to them if I was breaking any rules and even offered to resign but they said 'no'. They told me my show had boosted them in the ratings. I shall be going into work as normal this Friday. Nobody has told me not to."

Diana Dors postpones writ over fan mail

Miss Diana Dors yesterday adjourned her application for an injunction against her employers at TV-am over 3,000 fan mail letters for one week, in the hope that they can settle the matter out of court.

She had issued a High Court writ for the company to return the letters, many of which requested a diet calculator she used in her recent "Night against Flab" on the *Good Morning Britain* show.

Miss Dors, aged 52, said outside the Law Courts in London yesterday: "I hope that it can all be settled amicably. I am very sorry that they kept the letters."



Diana Dors: Dispute with TV-am

The dispute started when Miss Dors gave the brand name of the calculator, which she said was her "secret weapon" which helped her to lose 54lb.

She said yesterday: "I have no financial interest in the calculator at all. But TV-am, who sponsored my diet, said I was breaking IBA rules by illegally advertising in normal air time and the letters belonged to them."

"I have apologized to them if I was breaking any rules and even offered to resign but they said 'no'. They told me my show had boosted them in the ratings. I shall be going into work as normal this Friday. Nobody has told me not to."

Wife sees heart-lung transplant patient

By Thomson Prentice, Medical Reporter

Less than 24 hours after his operation, Lars Ljungberg, aged 32, took a breath with his new lungs yesterday and waved to his wife to signal the initial success of Britain's first combined heart and lungs transplant. Later she was able to join him at his bedside and they spoke briefly.

Mr Magdi Yacoub, who carried out the operation at Harefield Hospital, West London, with a team of almost twenty surgeons, technicians and nurses, said: "Progress is as

good as we hoped it would be. We are very pleased."

Mr Ljungberg, a Swedish journalist, had waited six weeks at the hospital until donor organs for the operation were found on Monday.

Mr Ljungberg was able to breathe yesterday without the aid of a ventilator for the first time since the operation.

The operation cost £20,000. It was paid for by Mr Ljungberg's local health authority in Sweden where heart transplants are not permitted.

Mr John Norris, of the 50,000-member Country Landowners' Association, said that

Hansard goes on computer

By Bill Johnstone
Electronics Correspondent
The text of the House of Commons Official Report, Hansard, the record of parliamentary debates and business, is being made available on computer terminals.

The service offered by the British computer software group, Scicon, is an extension of the system that the company began in late 1980 listing indexes of Hansard entries. That system acquired the acronym Polis (Parliamentary On-Line Information Service).

Scicon has more than 100 clients outside the Commons attached to its network. They are in central and local government, the trade and professional institutions, the media, business, and academic life.

According to the computer group, a market survey in the autumn of last year indicated that there was an appreciable demand by those who used the index service to have access to the full text on screen.

The text available is intended to start on November 3, 1982, when the last session of Parliament began.

The group's computer is based in Milton Keynes in Buckinghamshire and the Hansard files will be updated each day.

The tribunal ruled that Mr Allsop was never employed by Mr Morris.

Mr Allsop claimed he was paid £5 a week for helping to look after livestock at the farm of Mr Robert Morris, a businessman, and his wife, at Stoke Bliss, near Tenbury Wells, Hereford and Worcester.

But the tribunal ruled that

Mr Allsop was never employed by Mr Morris.

Mr Hugh Blackburne was

warned by the Ministry of Agriculture after he began to sell milk that was not bought by the big dairies from his farm in Hale, Surrey. It was labelled

"Fresh Jersey milk" and "Raw

and unpasteurized". The ministry ruled that Mr Blackburne's milk could not be called "fresh".

Mr Blackburne said: "It seems a bit drastic for them to threaten to withdraw my licence, but they always say it is because of EEC regulations.

"What annoys me is that they

say milk straight from the cow,

put in containers and sold

immediately is not fresh, but

that the same milk when taken

away, pasteurized and delivered

two days later, is."

Mr Blackburne has submitted

a different label to the ministry

which still describes the product as "fresh", but also includes the words "untreated milk".

Meat import warning to shoppers

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

The Ministry of Agriculture has issued a warning that people returning from Christmas shopping expeditions abroad must declare all uncooked meats and meat products to Customs.

There have been a number of outbreaks of swine fever and other animal diseases on the Continent and it is feared that products which are quite safe for human consumption could spread infection to Britain.

There is a ban on these

products from all countries except France, and a total prohibition on poultry meat and uncooked pork.

Although there is a standard allowance of one kilogram of other meats and one kilogram of meat products, the ministry would like to discourage people from bringing in any meat at all because it does not travel well and may be a health hazard.

BARGAIN BASEMENT

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HEAL'S 196 TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD LONDON W1

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BARGAIN BASEMENT

Patched-up compromise would have been unsatisfactory

EEC SUMMIT

It was regrettable that the European Council of heads of state and government meeting in Athens this weekend was not able to make the necessary progress for the next stage of the Community's development. Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said in a statement to the Commons:

I had made it clear (she said) that I would not consider an increase in overall agricultural expenditure or an agreement on a fair sharing of the budgetary burden and an effective control of agricultural and other expenditure.

There was no such agreement and therefore for the United Kingdom the question of an increase in the Community's resources did not arise.

Mrs Thatcher said: At its previous meeting in Stuttgart she had agreed that it was essential at this stage to consider the long-term future of the European Community and to tackle certain fundamental problems - in particular, agricultural surpluses; effective control of Community spending; and a fairer distribution of the burden of financing the Community.

We were all agreed that the Sonnenberg package had to be taken as a whole and that decisions on each item depended on agreement on the rest.

Unfortunately, the Community was not ready at Athens to take the necessary decisions. A number of member states wished to follow past practices and adopt a number of unsatisfactory compromises.

On agriculture, the main issues discussed at Athens were price policy and the limitation of open market guarantees; action to curb the milk surplus; import and export policy; the proposed oils and fats tax; and monetary compensatory amounts.

There was considerable difference of view on price policy, on the volume of milk that might be subject to quota and surpluses and on various requests and proposals from some countries for exemptions.

The UK is among those member states which consider that a single pricing policy is essential; that any other arrangements for milk such as a superlevy should be non-discriminatory; and that the surpluses of many other Community products need to be dealt with as well. Four member states, including the United Kingdom, made it clear that the

proposal for an oils and fats tax was unacceptable.

On monetary compensatory amounts, the differences between France and Germany were not resolved.

With regard to the unfair budgetary burden, there was some recognition that a lasting solution must be found which would put limits on the net contributions of the member states, which will affect our ability to pay. This could be implemented by correcting the VAT contribution of the member state concerned in the following year.

The majority of countries wished to establish a lasting system on the above lines which would be part of the process of decision - new arrangements. Unfortunately, although preparatory negotiations on this matter had made considerable progress, not all member states agreed to this approach and, accordingly, no decisions could be taken.

Similarly, with the problem of increasing Community expenditure, the will to control it effectively was just not present at the Athens meeting.

Even the ideas recently advanced by the French Government were not accepted by all countries as a basis for discussion. It made it clear that there must be strict guidelines for agricultural spending which must be embodied in the budgetary procedures of the Community.

Unless the agricultural and financial issues can be resolved, the reforms for new policies such as cooperation in research and development are very limited indeed - though many of us recognize that in the long run they are very important and that room should be made for them.

International questions such as Cyprus and the Lebanon were not discussed in plenary session but were, of course, much discussed outside it. No official statements were issued on these or any other matters.

Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition (Labour, Lab): Yesterday we were given what we interpreted as a genuine undertaking that we could look forward to a statement from the Prime Minister in the course of the Government's review of the British presence in Britain. No such statement has been forthcoming in this statement. There is great concern, especially in the wake of reports that a British Landrover has been knocked out and that British forces have been under fire.

She tried to lay the blame for the maimed failure of the Athens

summit on everyone but herself. We are used to that from the banana skin Prime Minister. On her return from the Stuttgart summit in late June she said she expected great success in Athens on budgetary reform, equitable sharing of burdens and control of expenditure.

She is quoted in today's newspaper as saying that the deepening crisis will sharpen her party's mind and that she will be right to order by the Brussels meeting in March. What does she think will change between Athens in December and Brussels in March?

Should the French change their position in those months? Does she think that fundamental

progress by the time of Brussels by assuring us that there can be a reduction of her coming here to ask for any increase on our own resources VAT contribution. Will she insist in the farm price review next year that if no progress has been made there will be a reduction in British farm prices to reduce the cost to the common agricultural policy?

Will she declare her determination to withhold all or part of our contribution until agreement is reached upon fundamental changes in the Common Market which will remove the persistent disadvantages of British membership? Unless she is prepared to take such action now, her position will impress the British people.

Mrs Thatcher: On Lebanon, we believe that we must continue to consult those countries who are also involved in the multinational force and that decisions must be taken together. The British contingent is very much valued by all parts of the Lebanese community. They would be open even if consulted, of course, of course, and so I think that it may be worth to pull out.

There would be considerable repercussions not only among the various communities in the Lebanon and the Arab and Jewish communities beyond but within the Alliance if there were to be any suggestion that we should unilateral or partially withdraw. We will not.

Mr Kinnock has no idea of how difficult it is to get agreement between 10 countries when discussing the whole of the matter under the purview of the European Community. When you are doing a fundamental job you have to get complete unanimity among all the partners. Their interests are very different.

Some of those who are great supporters of the Community wish to carry on exactly as they are. I doubt whether the Common Market will be in real financial difficulty until the autumn, but the present policies cannot carry on indefinitely because there will not be money for them to carry on. That is the point when we are most likely to agree reform. If I had accepted some of the ideas that were put before us Mr Kinnock would really be able to criticize.

With regard to the 1983 rebates, the £50 million Eros agreed at Stuttgart are not yet in default. The Common Market is not in default with Britain. That £50 million is due by the last day of March. I believe that Mr Kinnock would like it to default.

She can make much greater

progress if she were able to agree a fairer deal for us. We do (she said) need closer consultation with the United States. We meet frequently with our European partners but not so frequently with the United States, and this will be one value of the Nato and foreign ministers' meeting which will include Mr Schmidt.

With regard to the suggestion that we withdraw from the Common Market is not in default with Britain yet and we are not in default with the European Community. I will try to keep things on the level and honourable bases and hope that the 750 million Eros will be forthcoming by the end of March.

Mr Geoffrey Rippon (Hitchin, C): While agreeing it is probably better to have an open summit at Athens rather than a pretended summit, it might be better not to have another Community of states and heads of governments until there is a firmer basis of agreement achieved at a lower level.

Mrs Thatcher: On Lebanon, we believe that we must continue to consult those countries who are also involved in the multinational force and that decisions must be taken together. The British contingent is very much valued by all parts of the Lebanese community. They would be open even if consulted, of course, of course, and so I think that it may be worth to pull out.

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reforms are more likely under the French presidency than they have been under the Greek presidency?

Thanks to the failure in Athens we have no agreement on the 1984 rebate for 1983 which was agreed in January. Who suffered most from the break-up of the Common Market is not clear. It is not clear who will benefit from the new arrangements for milk such as a superlevy must be non-discriminatory; and that the surpluses of many other Community products need to be dealt with as well. Four member states, including the United Kingdom, made it clear that the

UK was not ready at Athens to take the necessary decisions. A number of member states wished to follow past practices and adopt a number of unsatisfactory compromises.

On agriculture, the main issues discussed at Athens were price policy and the limitation of open market guarantees; action to curb the milk surplus; import and export policy; the proposed oils and fats tax; and monetary compensatory amounts.

There was considerable difference of view on price policy, on the volume of milk that might be subject to quota and surpluses and on various requests and proposals from some countries for exemptions.

The UK is among those member states which consider that a single pricing policy is essential; that any other arrangements for milk such as a superlevy should be non-discriminatory; and that the surpluses of many other Community products need to be dealt with as well. Four member states, including the United Kingdom, made it clear that the

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Nuclear reactor will be economic disaster, professor tells inquiry

Electricity will cost more if the Central Electricity Generating Board builds a pressurized water reactor (PWR) at Sizewell, the public inquiry into the board's £1200m proposal was told yesterday by Professor Jim Jeffrey, an expert on energy economics.

Professor Jeffrey, Professor of Crystallography at London University, claimed the board's economic case for the PWR was invalid on a number of key assumptions. If Sizewell B was built "it would generate electricity at a considerable loss".

Basing his analysis on a detailed examination of the board's calculations, Professor Jeffrey said: "In view of the uncertainties and imprecise

bilities of the board's assumptions about future conditions it would seem wise to wait until a new station is actually needed before deciding what kind it should be."

Professor Jeffrey, who was giving evidence to the inquiry at Snape maltings, Suffolk, on behalf of the Stop Sizewell B Association, said the board's economic case was suspect because it required a reversal of the rapid decline in the rate of increase in electricity demand; it needed a large increase in the price of coal; and because the board's comparison of the costs of nuclear and coal-fired stations did not take into account the full price of reprocessing spent fuel, radioac-

tive waste disposal or the decommissioning of nuclear reactors.

The PWR was likely to be a "lifetime economic disaster", he said.

The board, he said, had also overestimated the savings it could make across the generating system by using nuclear energy because the displaced coal and oil would not be as expensive as it predicted.

Even if the board's assumptions were correct, electricity costs from a PWR would be higher than at present for the first 20 years of the power station's 35-year life.

The inquiry continues today.

India lifts ban on Sikh editor

By David Cross

Mr Tarsem Singh Purewal, editor of the leading Sikh newspaper in Britain, who was arrested and deported from India during a visit to his dying mother last month, is being allowed to return on compassionate grounds. But the Indian Government's decision to allow him an entry permit for two weeks has come too late for him to return to his mother's bedside. She died on November 26 after an operation for cancer of the pancreas.

India has given no reasons

for Mr Purewal's deportation although it is thought that it resents criticism of its conduct in his newspaper.

Mr Purewal said in London last night that he regretted that he was unable to be at his mother's bedside when she died. Because he was dragged away from the hospital ward by armed police, his mother had believed that he had been murdered by the authorities, he said.

Prisoner to challenge parole ban in court

The Home Secretary's ruling that certain prisoners jailed for more than five years cannot be granted parole until a few months before the end of their sentences is to be challenged in the High Court.

Edward Findlay, who is serving seven years for robbery, was given permission by Mr Justice Woolf in the High Court yesterday to proceed with a test case.

Mr Edward Fitzgerald, for Findlay, who is at Long Lartin Prison, Hereford and Worcester, said they wanted the court to review the Home Secretary's policy decision last month that any prisoner serving a fixed term sentence of more than five years for offences of violence should be granted parole only a few months before the end of his sentence, unless the circumstances were genuinely exceptional.

They seek a declaration that the policy is unlawful and contravenes the Criminal Justice Act, 1967.

They also seek a declaration that Findlay is entitled to have his case for parole considered on its merits, and an order prohibiting the Home Secretary from applying the new policy.

The judge said it was a case that should be argued fully.

Fixed term prisoners are usually eligible for parole after completion of a third of their sentences or 12 months, whichever is longer.



Waxen Chancellor: Karen Newman with her wax sculpture of Dr. Helmut Kohl, the West German Chancellor, which went on show at Madame Tussaud's in London yesterday. Dr. Kohl gave clothes from his wardrobe to dress it (Photograph: John Manning).

Wheat production sets new record

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

The 1983 United Kingdom cereals harvest totalled 21,370,000 tonnes, about 5 per cent down on last year, but still the second highest ever, according to the first complete official estimates published by the Home Grown Cereals Authority.

Wheat production set a new record of 10,828,000 tonnes, and the average yield was up from 6.2 to 6.4 tonnes a hectare. Yields are now some 40 per cent higher than the average throughout the 1970s partly because of a swing away from exceptionally dry summer.

UK CEREAL PRODUCTION 1982 AND 1983

	ENGLAND & WALES		SCOTLAND		NIRELAND	
	1982	1983	1982	1983	1982	1983
WHEAT	Area	1,622	1,643	40	47	1.0
	Yield	6.18	6.40	7.20	6.39	5.83
	Prod	10,020	10,515	290	300	5.8
BARLEY	Area	1,719	1,855	455	451	47.1
	Yield	4.95	4.75	4.92	4.36	4.25
	Prod	8,514	7,861	2,240	1,968	200
Winter area	829	842	44*	65*	4.2	4.8
Spring area	890	813	411	368	428	41.4
OATS	Area	98	80	31	25	3.1
	Yield	4.57	4.45	4.02	3.76	3.11
	Prod	432	356	128	94	9.8
TOTAL (a)	Area	3,452	3,391	526	524	51.7
CEREALS	Prod	19,037	18,790	2,055	2,360	217
						219

Winter barley planting for Scotland are December census figures.

The 1983 June cereals include the winter/spring split only in England, Wales and N. Ireland.

(a) Total cereals include rye and mixed corn.

Source: Home Grown Cereals Authority.

Charities told to shun politics

Headlines complaint rejected

Voluntary organizations should keep out of politics and resist government interference, the National Council for Voluntary Organizations has told its 360 members.

The council says there has been a 63 per cent increase in government grants to charities and voluntary organizations in recent years but it has been accompanied by more complaints about increasing government pressure on their work.

Guidance issued by the council says organizations should not attempt to influence the electoral process but should "assert and exercise their freedom to advocate changes or continuity in public policy, programmes and law".

Organizations should distinguish between "arm's length" support from government and "cont acts" with government

on the same page.

Reith lecturer boosts open government lobby

By Peter Hennessy

Sir Douglas Wass, the former Permanent Secretary to the Treasury, came out in favour of open government last night with a fervour that could only embarrass the Prime Minister and Sir Robert Armstrong, Secretary of the Cabinet, with whom he served as Joint Head of the Home Civil Service until last Easter.

In the course of the 1983 BBC Reith lectures, Sir Douglas floated the idea of an external audit on open government which would monitor ministers' fulfilment of pledges to be more forthcoming with Parliament and the public.

The system would need an audit staff with full access to official files. The auditors would be empowered to alert Parliament in cases of unjustified suppression.

Ministers could be forced to defend their decisions to withhold information in closed session before a Commons select committee. Such a system would be costly to operate but



Gordon Selfridge helping to construct the Selfridge roof garden 1935.

How British do you have to be to contribute to Britain?

Gordon Selfridge was an American retailer who came to Britain when he was 49 years old.

His investment in a department store in London made his name a household word throughout Britain. The Selfridge name is familiar today in high streets across the country.

In 1935 he celebrated the Silver Jubilee of King George V by adding a roof garden to his Oxford Street store.

You don't have to have British parents to contribute to Britain.

IBM came to Britain in 1951 and has been investing here ever since.

We opened our first factory at Greenock on the Clyde and added a second at Havant on the Hampshire

shire coast. Together these provide 4,500 jobs, and their products are exported to 80 countries in Europe, Africa and the Middle East.

IBM has also invested in British research and development. In 1958 we bought a country house near Winchester and established there one of IBM's largest development laboratories in Europe. A laboratory where British scientists have developed IBM's first general purpose colour display and first intelligent terminal.

In the Midlands we established a centre that aids businesses by showing how computers help design new products and speed them to the manufacturing floor.

And on the South Bank of the Thames we have

just moved into a new office building where customers can learn what computers can do to help make their businesses more competitive and government more efficient.

All this investment in the last 10 years alone has totalled almost £1,000 million.

Like Gordon Selfridge we do not claim to have British parents.

But our investment in Britain is as varied as a department store.

- 1982 investment - £119 million.
- Britain's ninth largest exporter.
- 15,000 British jobs.
- Two British factories.
- 11,000 British suppliers.



Brother of Colombian President released

Bogota - A two-minute silence was observed throughout Colombia at noon yesterday as part of a national demonstration for peace in a country torn by both political subversion and violent crime (Geoffrey Mathews writes).

Sensing the national mood, leftist guerrillas released the brother of President Belisario Betancur, whom they had kidnapped two weeks ago.

The national demonstration, unprecedented in Colombia's history, started with a signal in national radio and was accompanied by fire brigade sirens and the ringing of church bells. Traffic stopped and people waved white flags.

The demonstration, supported by the Government, had been called by the Liberal and Conservative parties and was backed by a Socialist alliance and the Communist Party. It had been planned before Senator Jaime Betancur was kidnapped in Bogota.

Oberammergau suit fails

Munich - The women of Oberammergau will go on having to be young and single to be allowed to appear in the traditional once-a-decade Passion Play (Barbara von Ow writes).

The Bavarian Constitutional Court yesterday turned down a suit alleging that the play's regulations violated constitutional rights. Only women who are single, childless and under 35, have the right to elect members to the Passion Play Committee.

Panda ailing



Ling-Ling, the American National Zoo's 12-year-old female giant panda, is seriously ill with kidney failure. Her chances of recovery were poor, zoo officials in Washington said.

Flynt in dock

Chicago (Reuter) - The sex magazine publisher, Larry Flynt, was jailed yesterday for 60 days for contempt of court after he had shouted obscenities and spat at a Federal judge. He has been in jail in Chicago since his arrest last Saturday for violating a travel ban.

Rapist flogged

Karachi (Reuter) - A young man was flogged in northern Pakistan before a crowd of 25,000 people after an Islamic court convicted him of rape, the Pakistan news agency reported yesterday. Raza Khan received 10 lashes.

Nuclear blast

Wellington (AFP) - New Zealand scientists monitored a small French nuclear test explosion at Mururoa atoll in the South Pacific on Saturday, an official spokesman said yesterday.

£1m ransom paid

La Paz (AFP) - Lufthansa paid £1m for the release of its airline representative who was kidnapped on November 14, the Bolivian Interior Minister announced. Herr Michael Wurche was freed 11 days after his kidnapping, but his abductors have not been found.

Crisis in Lebanon: Israeli anger grows

From Mario Modiano
Athens

The first of four Greek ships chartered to evacuate the 4,000 Palestinians loyal to Mr Yasser Arafat, is due to reach the port of Tripoli tomorrow.

The Greek Government responded to a request from the PLO leader for help. The Greek Ministry of Merchant Marine made the arrangements and the four ships will take the Palestinians to North Yemen and Tunisia.

"The ships will fly the flags of Greece and the United Nations, as the whole operation will be under the supervision of the U.N. Secretary-General," a spokesman said.

The contracts were signed yesterday between the Greek shipowners and representatives of the PLO, which will bear the cost, including a two per cent war-risk levy.

● JERUSALEM: Pressure is mounting on the Israeli Government not to let Mr Arafat leave safely after the PLO attack on a Jerusalem bus (Christopher Walker writes).

In an interview in Paris, broadcast by Israel Radio, Mr Ariel Sharon, the former Defence Minister, who is now Minister without Portfolio, claimed that it would be a grave mistake for the Israelis to allow Mr Arafat to leave Lebanon, the cost of which would be the revival of the PLO.

Mr Sharon's demand reflected the anger felt after Tuesday's explosion which killed four Israelis, including two children, aged 11 and 4, and an elderly man of 77. Ten of the 30 civilians still hospitalized were in a serious condition last night and one was described as critical.

Pressing his call for decisive action against Mr Arafat, the former Defence Minister stressed that the destruction of "the terrorist movement" had



Business as usual: A member of the British contingent in Beirut, carrying his rifle and a small Union Flag, gets on with the job as his future is debated in London. British soldiers have so far escaped serious injury despite last Friday's destruction of a Land-Rover.

been the most important outcome of the Lebanon war. If the PLO was not permitted to reorganize, observed the official, then those responsible had been isolated and retaliation would be ordered.

It is known that gunboats and at least one submarine from the Israeli Navy have been mounting a blockade outside Tripoli and that one ship, carrying Mr

Arafat's supporters towards the port from Cyprus, was recently intercepted.

Earlier yesterday, Mr Yitzhak Shamir's government comfortably survived a motion of no confidence, arising from its recent unwritten security pact with America. The motion was tabled by the small Israeli Communist Party.

Chastened Americans review their tactics

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

The US Navy is carrying out an investigation into the downing of two of its aircraft over Syrian-occupied Lebanon on Sunday. It may change tactics to reduce losses.

The Americans have been stung by criticism from US and Israeli experts that the strike had been poorly executed, with faulty tactics, inexperienced pilots and aircraft that were too slow.

A US naval officer, who declined to be identified, told journalists that Sunday's loss, two aircraft out of 28 engaged, were just over 7 per cent, which was similar to loss levels during World War Two and in Vietnam.

The relatively heavy loss would be taken into account when planning future raids.

The aircraft met stiffer resistance than expected and information about Syrian anti-aircraft batteries in Lebanon was inadequate, the officer said. A morning haze over the targets had hampered visibility.

General Mordechai Hod, a former Israeli Air Force commander, blamed the American pilots' "lack of experience" for the loss of two aircraft in one raid. Israel has lost only three aircraft since it invaded Lebanon last year.

The Syrian Embassy in Washington yesterday confirmed that the US had been notified a number of times that its reconnaissance aircraft would be being fired on if they flew over Syrian-occupied territory.

The Commission believes essentially that the 10 leaders had too many dossiers in Athens to consider. This was directly due to the growing practice of allowing different countries to put forward rival propositions.

In deciding to try to go back to the good old days when it alone made proposals, the Commission is making a tacit admission that it let the meetings not authorized by the rules run out of control.

The inexperienced Greek presidency tried a new style of summit, which did not work as it often led to as many points of view as ministers round the table.

Mr Gaston Thorn, the Commission President, complained loudly but in vain. Now

Athens summit fiasco

French put blame on Britain but try to avoid recriminations

From Diana Gledhill, Paris

If the British are surprised by France's apparent volte-face at Athens on the question of finding a long-term solution to Brimix's contribution to the EEC budget, the French are equally surprised at Britain's reaction, believing that it is the British rather than the French who are primarily to blame for the summit's failure.

At the official level very little is being said, save to emphasize France's desire and determination to continue to work for a satisfactory settlement, and every effort is being made to avoid recriminations of any kind. Unlike Mrs Margaret Thatcher, President Mitterrand has made no public comment on Britain's attitude during the summit, despite his strong private feelings.

The only official statement on Athens after yesterday's Cabinet meeting was that President Mitterrand had expressed the hope that the present crisis would help concentrate minds, and that he did not believe in the "self-destruction" of Europe. "If one can dominate the crises, progress is possible" he said.

The resignation of M Andre Chenderagon as Minister for European Affairs, and his nomination as President of the Cour des Comptes, France's highest "court" for the control of public finances, was also announced at the Cabinet meeting. M Chenderagon's departure from the Government had been arranged for some time and had nothing to do with the success or failure of the Athens summit, however. He was considered a tough and competent minister.

President Mitterrand had no need to apportion blame, however. The press has done that for him. There is a unanimous feeling here that it was Mrs Thatcher's intransigence and unwillingness to take one small step toward her Community partners that caused the impasse which led to the total breakdown of negotiations.

That view is supported in private by officials. They reject

M Chenderagon: Tough and competent minister

Get-tough Commission tries to regain control

From Ian Murray, Brussels

The European Commission is attempting to turn the clock back to the days when it had much more power in the Community. At the same time it is preparing to impose tough controls on the Community budget for the next year in an attempt to spin the money out.

After the total failure of the Athens summit to decide on essential reforms, the 14-member Commission held a crisis meeting in Brussels yesterday and agreed they had to assert their authority in the manner envisaged by the founding fathers.

The Commission believes essentially that the 10 leaders had too many dossiers in Athens to consider. This was directly due to the growing practice of allowing different countries to put forward rival propositions.

In deciding to try to go back to the good old days when it alone made proposals, the Commission is making a tacit admission that it let the meetings not authorized by the rules run out of control.

The inexperienced Greek presidency tried a new style of summit, which did not work as it often led to as many points of view as ministers round the table.

Mr Gaston Thorn, the Commission President, complained loudly but in vain. Now

The Chancellor said he hoped the crisis would lead to a change in thinking.

● MADRID: In spite of the Athens debacle, both the Spanish and Portuguese Governments have reassured their wish to join the EEC (Richard Wigg writes).

West Germany would do its best to ensure that the next council meeting was better able to fulfil its task, and Bonn would hold a series of bilateral meetings with its community partners.

The Chancellor said he hoped the crisis would lead to a change in thinking.

● BONN: Chancellor Helmut Kohl told the West German Parliament yesterday he did not hide his disappointment at the failure of the Athens summit, but he was not prepared to apportion blame (Michael Binyon writes).

West Germany would do its best to ensure that the next council meeting was better able to fulfil its task, and Bonn would hold a series of bilateral meetings with its community partners.

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leading article, page 13

Premier told to stay on

Beirut (Reuter) - The Lebanese prime minister, Mr Chafic Wazzan, asked President Gemayel yesterday to accept his resignation as shells crashed into residential parts of east Beirut, but he was persuaded to stay on.

But the Prime Minister, who wants to hand over to a

government of national unity, said he would continue in office until Mr Gemayel completes a new round of national consultations.

The shelling in east Beirut

followed an outbreak of fighting in the mountains between the Lebanese Army and Druze militias.

Mandate for British peace force

Governments, consistent with the Mandate of the IMF:

(ii) Command authority over the British force will be exercised exclusively by the British Government through existing British diplomatic and military channels;

(iii) The LAF and MNF will form a liaison and co-ordination committee;

(iv) The British force will operate in close coordination with the Lebanese Armed Forces;

(v) In carrying out its duties, the British force will not engage in hostilities or other operations of a warlike nature. It may, however, exercise the right of self-defence;

(vi) Notwithstanding the time limits proposed above, the British force will not return from Lebanon upon the request of the President of Lebanon or upon the decision of the British Government. Any proposal for renewal of the Mandate would be subject to consultation between the Government of the Lebanon and her Majesty's Government and the agreement of both parties;

(vii) The British force will be maintained by the British Government and the LAF will take all measures necessary to protect the British force's personnel (to include securing assurances from all armed elements not now under the authority of the Lebanese Government that they will refrain from hostilities and not interfere with any activities of the MNF);

(viii) The British force will enjoy the degree of freedom and movement and the right to undertake those activities deemed necessary for the performance of its mission for the support of its personnel. Accordingly, the members of

the British force shall enjoy the privileges and immunities consistent with the Mandate of the IMF;

(ix) The British force will be entitled to receive supplies and equipment from the British Government and the LAF shall be entitled to receive supplies and equipment from the British force;

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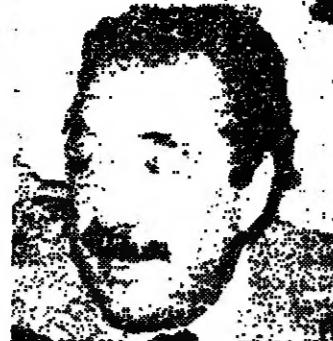
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(xxxvi) The British force will be entitled to receive supplies and equipment from the

Argentine air threat to Falklands aims to run up Britain's bill

From Douglas Tweedale
Buenos Aires



The outgoing head of Argentina's Air Force, Brigadier Augusto Hughes, has vowed to test Britain's defences on the Falkland Islands and harass them to make the defence more expensive for Mrs Thatcher.

"The Air Force will be present in our sovereign air-space, testing and probing the enemy's defence capabilities to wear him down and make his defence more costly," the commander said.

Brigadier Hughes, who resigned his command on Tuesday in preparation for the transfer of power to the elected civilian government, said in a farewell speech that "the more effective our presence is, the more it will cost the enemy to maintain his forces."

He added that it would be difficult for Britain to continue "providing dollars (for the defence of the islands), especially since those colonies do not produce any dividends."

The Air Force has traditionally been the most nationalistic of Argentina's armed forces.

Cautious Ozal pledges to axe ministries

From Rasis Gardilek, Ankara

Military rule ended in Turkey yesterday when President Kenan Evren called on Mr Turgut Ozal, last month's general election winner, to form a government.

General Evren said he hoped that "now that the faults of Turkey's former democratic system are corrected and democracy is based on firmer foundations, there will be no further breakdowns".

Mr Ozal thanked the President for saving the country from certain disaster, pledging every effort on the part of his government to consolidate the successes attained.

Mr Ozal admitted his five-year term in power would not be easy because of the problems confronting the country, for which he invoked "the help of God". Improving the lot of the "central column" (his description of the middle class) would be a priority.

as the country's first civilian ruler in nearly eight years.

In a brief meeting postponed from Monday, the joint houses of Congress confirmed the results of the elections last October which gave Señor Alfonsin the victory, and officially named him President.

Señor Alfonsin is to be sworn in on Saturday in a ceremony that will be attended by a number of European and Latin American heads of state, including Spain's Señor Felipe González. The US is to be represented by a delegation led by Vice-President George Bush.

and it is known that many officers still harbour strong feelings because of the heavy losses suffered by air crews during the war with Britain.

Brigadier Hughes also said that the Air Force proposed that British capital frozen here during the war should not be released and that British companies not be allowed to take profits over the country.

Meanwhile, the Argentine Congress formally proclaimed Señor Raúl Alfonsin as the next President of Argentina just four days before he is to take office.

Opposition to Marcos joins forces

From Keith Dalton
Manila

Philippine opposition groups yesterday announced plans to hold a national people's congress next month to elect an "alternative government" of 15 sectoral leaders who would be willing to hold reconciliation talks with President Ferdinand Marcos.

The formation of the multi-sectoral congress was accompanied by a warning from the organizers that it was the last attempt to avert further radicalization of the Filipino people.

The chairman of the congress, Mr Agapito Aquino, brother of the murdered opposition leader, Benigno Aquino, said the principle aim was to debunk claims that the opposition lacked a leader of the calibre of Mr Marcos.

Publication was allegedly suspended because the paper printed an obituary, which praised the late Ismail Bilen, the former secretary-general of the outlawed Turkish Communist Party.



Question time: Mr Shultz (right) with Herr Genscher at his press conference

Shultz eager to meet Gromyko

From Michael Binion, Bonn

Mr George Shultz, the American Secretary of State, said yesterday he was "more than ready" to meet Mr Andrei Gromyko, his Soviet opposite number, at the opening of the European disarmament conference in Stockholm on January 17.

He told a press conference at the end of his brief round of talks with government and opposition leaders here that he expected to attend the conference, which he described as important, as there was strong support among the Western Allies for their foreign ministers to be present at the opening.

Mr Shultz has not turned into an angry confrontation over the shooting down of the Korean airliner.

However, among the European allies, West Germany in

particular has been pressing Washington for a resumption of a high-level dialogue. On the eve of Mr Shultz's arrival Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister, called on the West to take the initiative in improving East-West relations.

Mr Shultz said the US and West Germany had no differences on Nato strategy.

In his meeting with Chancellor Helmut Kohl, Mr Shultz also discussed Lebanon, where, he said, the situation was "troublousome". American forces there would continue to defend themselves against attacks. He was convinced the Israelis would withdraw from Lebanon and the task now was to persuade the Syrians to do as well.

● LONDON: Whitehall

sources confirmed last night that Mrs Thatcher had replied to the letter from President Andropov in which the Soviet leader made one last appeal to halt the deployment of American missiles in Britain (Henry Stanhope writes).

The Russian initiative involved a series of such letters to West European leaders, in which threats and cajolery were used in an attempt to persuade them to change their minds.

Neither Downing Street nor the Foreign Office would discuss the contents of Mrs Thatcher's reply, but it is understood to have thrown the ball back into the Russian court with a demand that the East rather than the West should show more flexibility in any future arms talks.

The Islamic summit

Delegates ignore plight of Biharis

From Michael Hamlyn, Dhaka

The Biharis - the majority do come from Bihar, but many hail from Bombay, or Madras, or many other parts of India - were mainly railway employees who were given the chance of opting for Pakistan, or India by the departing British Administration in 1947. They chose Pakistan, and rather than risk the bloody riots of Punjab, they opted for East Bengal.

While the delegates utter reciting speeches about Muslim brotherhood these Muslims, these victims of inter-Muslim strife and sufferers from Muslim neglect, are unable even to contact the visitors to Dhaka because of the wall of security surrounding them.

Some 250,000 Biharis, non-Bengali Pakistanis stranded here after the war in 1971, live in camps like Geneva Camp, Mohammandpur, close to the centre of Dhaka. In huts made of palm thatch, 8ft by 6ft, families of five live in a warehouse, dark in the absence of natural windows, smoky with cooking fires and heating with humanity. Young families, elderly widows, old men and their orphaned grandchildren live in pens.

In summer the heat is intense, the flies appalling, the smells unimaginable. In the monsoon nothing dries, the roofs pour with water, the paths turn to swamps. "For the past 12 years," say their leaders, "we have been living amidst hunger, malnutrition, disease, insecurity and filth. A whole generation of children is being slowly wasted away, without education or proper upbringing."

Iran renews threat to shut Hormuz

From Our Own Correspondent, Dhaka

Dr Ali Akbar Velayati, the Iranian Foreign Minister, flanked by two turbanned mullahs, made no reference to the goodwill mission, led by President Sekou Touré of Guinea, which was set up by the last Islamic summit. Every speech made to the conference so far has referred to the tragedy of the Iran-Iraq war.

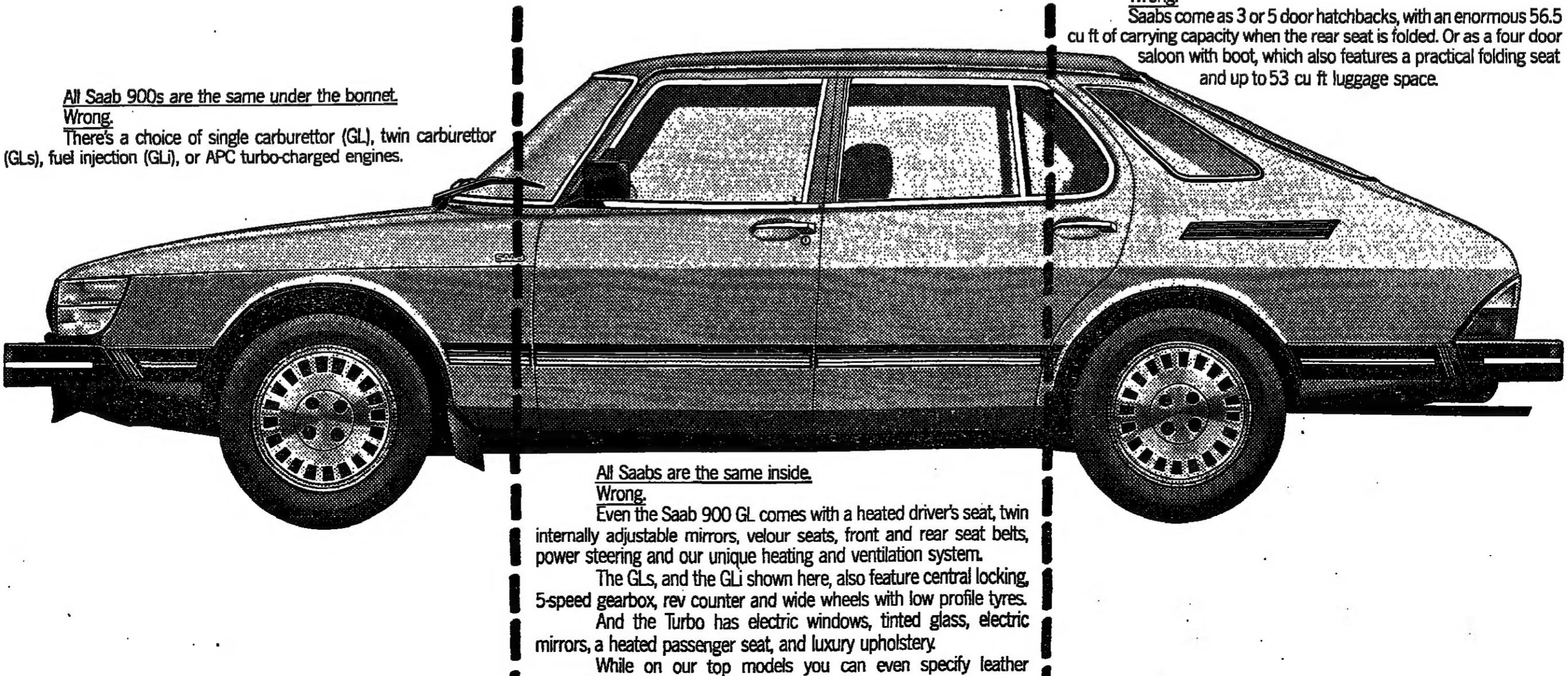
The Iraqi delegate to the meeting, Mr Hamad Alwan, the Minister of State, told the conference that Iraq was perfectly prepared to accept the goodwill mission's plan.

● TEHRAN: Captain Behram Afzali, the former Iranian Navy Commander-in-Chief, admitted before a court here yesterday to spying for the Soviet Union.

AN INVESTIGATION INTO THE DECEPTIVE APPEARANCE OF A SAAB

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There's a choice of single carburettor (GL), twin carburettor (GLs), fuel injection (GLi), or APC turbocharged engines.



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Dawn raids on 70 right wingers' homes

Bonn bans neo-Nazis

From Michael Buxton
Bonn

After dawn raids throughout West Germany on the homes of 70 known neo-Nazis, Herr Friedrich Zimmermann, the Interior Minister banned the most active neo-Nazi organization and associated right-wing groups, which he said posed a danger to democracy.

In a carefully coordinated action, police in nine federal states searched the homes of leading members of the Action Front of National Socialists/National Activists. No arrests were made but police took away membership cards, letters, propaganda material, Nazi emblems and swastikas.

The Action Front is estimated to have 270 members, mainly young people, organized into 32 local "comradeships." It is led by Herr Michael Kühn, a former soldier who was released last year after four years in a Hamburg prison for advocating racial hatred. Ten days ago he was arrested in Vienna for Nazi activities and expelled.

Herr Zimmermann called the front the most active of the neo-Nazi groups in the federal Republic, and said he would not stand idly by while it carried out anti-democratic actions. This year alone, neo-Nazis are accused of 52 acts of violence, including arson attacks, muggings, bodily harm and damage to property. The Interior Minister said it knew of 1,400 neo-Nazis altogether in the country, including 300 militants. The total has risen by 100 over last year.

Neo-Nazi violence has been directed mainly against foreigners, especially Turks, and the authorities have been concerned at the spread of right-wing extremism among football fans. Among the actions planned by the Action Front were gatherings in Munich to commemorate the sixtieth anniversary of Hitler's abortive 1923 putsch and the forty-fifth anniversary



Herr Michael Kühn heads the Action Front

of Crystal Night, when Jewish shops were destroyed. The banned neo-Nazi parties have regrouped under new names. The Action Front includes members who once belonged to the now outlawed People's Socialist Movement of Germany and the Hoffmann Military Sports Group.

He accused the Action Front of trying to revive the National Socialist Party, of propagating the ideas in *Mein Kampf* and in Hitler's last political testament, and of assuming an increasingly military posture.

The Government has been

In the first of two articles from Seoul, David Wattis reports on the firm hand with which the Government grips the people.

As President Reagan peered across the Demilitarized Zone into North Korea last month and denounced the totalitarian Pyongyang Government, hundreds of people were in detention in South Korea for voicing their opinions of the assassination of President Chun Doo Hwan.

The American President's visit brought an unanticipated calm to the campuses of South Korea; and after his departure the battle was joined again, from Kwangju in the south-west to the capital.

Students denouncing President Chun and the US defied government squads to mount leaflet protests that would be ignored in most other countries outside the Eastern bloc.

The students are demanding release from the heavy hand of the Chun Government of a free press and some form of democracy.

Though their

numbers are relatively small, the Government takes them seriously, and with good reason every change of government since the Second World War has been preceded by student protests which eventually affected the rest of society.

It is thought that protests spreading from the south of the country were the immediate cause of the assassination of

SOUTH KOREA

Part 1

President Park Chung Hee by the Head of the Korean Central Intelligence Agency in 1979.

Park, a dour authoritarian, tended to use his powers *ad hoc*. President Chun has institutionalized many of Park's measures, but never achieved even a modicum of his popularity.

The ruthless way in which he seized power, and the bloody

May of 1980 in Kwangju, have

Peking hint on intervention

Peking (Reuters) — British and Chinese negotiators met here yesterday for a fresh round of formal talks on Hongkong's future to the background of a warning that China might change its 1997 deadline and an announcement of a joint Anglo-Chinese agreement to build a nuclear power plant.

A Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman said that if no problems arose, China would stick to its plan to take Hongkong back in 1997. But "For instance, if there is some turmoil in Hongkong, we could consider changing our timetable over recovery of sovereignty," he told a press briefing. He did not say whether this meant China would step in earlier than 1997 or extend the deadline.

He said that Peking would

announce its policies for the colony next September, whether Britain and China had reached agreement on its future or not.

The spokesman, Mr Qi Huaiyan, denied that China was rushing to reach a formula for Hongkong's future. "By next year, two years of talks will have passed. This is not being in a hurry," he said.

He reassured Hongkong journalists that the colony would be allowed to retain its capitalist social and economic systems under Chinese rule.

The two-day meeting, the seventh since the two sides began detailed discussions in July, was not expected to produce any news of progress other than the usual guarded statement setting the date for

the next round. When negotiators reconvene, the British team will have a new leader. The ambassador to Peking, Sir Percy Craddock, retires later this month to take up the post of foreign policy adviser to Mrs Thatcher.

In his place, across the table from China's Deputy Foreign Minister, Mr Yao Guang, will be the new ambassador, Mr Richard Evans.

Announcing the setting up of a joint venture company to build nuclear power plant near Hongkong, the official New China news agency reported that it had been agreed in fruitful talks between Britain's Department of Trade and Industry, and officials of the Chinese Ministry of Water Resources and Electric Power.

President Chun: He seems oblivious to criticism

They're a totally independent entity. There is almost no area of human activity in which the Government has not taken complete control."

Some of the hundreds who were removed during the President's "purification" programme after he took office have merely become more devious.

"The military," according to a foreigner, "feel no obligation to obey the law on any level.

not.

Tomorrow: Diplomatic success

Letter from Moscow

Traumatic memory set in granite

Hitler's troops came so close to entering Moscow they could have caught a bus into town, had there been any buses running.

Still, literary-minded Russians point out that Tolstoy erected his monument to the 1812 war against Napoleon half a century after the war had ended, yet nobody thought *War and Peace* old hat. The comparison is apt, since the new Victory Monument is to rise on a hill above Kutuzovskiy Prospect, where there are already several reminders of the earlier Russian struggle against foreign invaders.

Known ironically as "Welcome Hill", it guards the approach to Moscow from

Victory Monument: It will dominate the complex

Smolensk, Minsk and ultimately central Europe. It was on this hill that Napoleon stood and waited in vain for the Moscow city fathers to come to and greet him as a conquering hero. Down below, the great triumphal arch, moved here from the Leningrad highway, straddles Kutuzovskiy Prospect, whose General Kutuzov, the Russian hero of 1812, is commemorated in an equestrian statue and the circular panorama painting of the Battle of Borodino.

The coach parties will no doubt pause at these memorials to the patriotic war of 1812 before going up the hill to consider the Great Patriotic War of 1941 and the new Victory Monument. The Moscow city authorities recently announced that 31m roubles had been raised during voluntary work on a Saturday — the tradition known as a communist *subotnik* — and that the money would be spent on constructing the new memorial park complex.

The official announcement said the capital's workers had "decided" to donate the money to the Victory Monument, and though very few seem to have been consulted in dissent. Richard Owen

Shuttle returns today after record mission

From Trevor Fishlock
New York

The space shuttle Columbia returns to earth today after 10 busy days in orbit. The mission was extended an extra day to allow the crew more time for experiments and observations in the European Spacelab carried in Columbia's hold.

The six-man crew welcomed the extra day because failures in a computer, transmitting and photographic equipment put them behind schedule.

The 10-day flight is a shuttle record, and by the time Columbia lands at Edwards Air Force Base in California at 4 pm GMT, it will have travelled 4.2m miles at a height of 155 miles above Earth.

By yesterday morning, 37 of the 70 experiments in Spacelab had been completed.

● MOSCOW: Soviet cosmonauts Vladimir Lyakhov and Alexander Alexandrov returned yesterday to their home in Star City, a space workers' settlement near Moscow, two weeks after the end of their 150-day mission aboard Salyut 7.

Science report, page 14

New year poll inevitable in Denmark

From Christopher Follett
Copenhagen

A New Year election is virtually inevitable in Denmark after the refusal of Opposition parties to vote for the draft 1984 budget presented by the 13-month-old Conservative-Liberal Government.

Mr Pouls Schlüter, Denmark's first Conservative Prime Minister this century, threatened yesterday to call an election unless he receives parliamentary backing for what he sees as the cornerstone of his administration's policy — an austerity budget containing £700m of public expenditure cuts.

These would reduce the budget deficit to less than £4,200m, the first drop in Denmark's budget deficit in a decade.

The Social Democrats, the largest Opposition group, demanded reductions in the planned savings and announced that they would vote against the budget for the first time since 1979, when the Bill comes before Parliament for a final reading on December 15.

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*Price quoted is maximum retail price excluding VRT, number plates and delivery of a Standard 100 LWB chassis cab. Effective saving is on Transit 15-seat Custom Bus model and is a comparison with the price at 15th August, 1983, of a similarly equipped vehicle. Payloads quoted are nominal. For full details see October 1983 Ford Transit brochure ref. FB 661.

مكتبة من الأصل

Court of Appeal

Law Report December 8 1983

Court of Appeal

Purpose of acquiring trading stock

Coates (Inspector of Taxes) v Arndale Properties Ltd
Reed (Inspector of Taxes) v Nova Securities Ltd
Before Lord Justice Lawton, Lord Justice Fox and Lord Justice Kerr [Judgment delivered December 6]

For an asset to be acquired "as trading stock" within the meaning of section 274(1) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970 the purpose of the acquisition must be commercial in character.

The Court of Appeal so held when considering two appeals involving claims by taxpayer companies to avail themselves of provisions in the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970 and the Finance Act 1965 enabling groups of companies to convert a capital loss into a revenue loss for corporation tax purposes.

Where the sole purpose of the acquisition of an asset by the taxpayer company was to obtain a fiscal advantage for a group of companies of which it was a member, the Court of Appeal held that the asset was not acquired "as trading stock" and allowed an appeal by the Crown from the dismissal by Mr Justice Goulding (*The Times* March 25, 1982) of the Crown's appeal against a determination of the general commissioners to disallow an assessment to corporation tax on Arndale Properties Ltd in a sum of £23,072 for the year ending March 31, 1974.

The court (Lord Justice Lawton dissenting) dismissed the Crown's appeal from the decision of Mr Justice Walton (*The Times* August 6, 1982) who upheld a determination of the general commissioners to disallow an assessment to corporation tax on Arndale Properties Ltd in a sum of £23,072 for the year ending March 31, 1974.

Leave to appeal to the House of Lords was granted in both cases.

Mr Jonathan Parker, QC and Mr John Mumford, QC for the Crown in the first appeal; Mr Andrew Park, QC and Mr Michael Flesch, QC for Arndale Properties Ltd; Mr J. E. Holroyd Pearce, QC and Mr Peter Goldsmith for the Crown in the second appeal; Mr C. N. Beattie, QC and Mr Christopher Sokol for Nova Securities Ltd.

LORD JUSTICE LAWTON said that in each appeal the principal issue was whether the company taxpayer, being a member of a group of companies, had acquired "an asset as trading stock" within the meaning of section 274(1) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970. If they had, then that could bring into account an trading losses capital losses which had been sustained by the member of the group from whom they had acquired the assets.

In his Lordship's judgment, if the acquisition of an asset lacked a commercial character it could not be said to have been acquired as trading stock but if it had that character the reason why the acquisition was made, not the nature of other factors, ought not to deprive it of that character.

Whether a transaction had a commercial character was a question of mixed fact and law. It was a question of law what the words "acquire an asset as trading stock" in section 274(1) meant and a question of fact whether the transaction in question came within that meaning.

If the words connoted a transaction having a commercial character and, on the facts found, the commissioners could reasonably have adjudged that it had such characteristics, it could not fail to have made a determination which was onerous in law and their determination could not be set aside.

In the first appeal, the taxpayer was one of a number of wholly

owned subsidiaries within the Town and City group and dealt in land. Another subsidiary, Swiss-English Property Investments (Newport) Ltd (SPI) had spent £5,313,822 on a property development scheme at Newport which had a market value of only £3,100,000.

On March 30, 1973, SPI transferred the property to the taxpayer for a consideration shown by book entries as £3,090,000. By another agreement on the same day the taxpayer transferred the property to a third subsidiary Arndale Property Trust Ltd (Arndale), an investment company, for £3,100,000.

As the two assignments had been made between members of a group of companies, section 273(1) of the 1970 Act applied so that the transfer was deemed to have produced a gain nor a loss to SPI and the taxpayer was deemed to have acquired the property at a price of £3,100,000.

The registered share capital of Medallion had not been sold but £35,447 had been received by the taxpayer in part payment of debts on the sale of the Offenbach premises.

In his Lordship's judgment, the only reasonable inference from the facts was that the sale of the debts and shares would never have come about if those who had planned it had not seen fiscal advantages.

A deal of the instant kind did have a commercial character and was consistent with the acquisition of assets as trading stock. However, the transaction must not be looked at in isolation.

The commissioners had to have regard to its inception, to the arrangements made initially and to the manner of implementation. Had the commissioners viewed the transaction as a whole they could not reasonably have come to the conclusion that the taxpayer had acquired the debts and shares as influenced by fiscal considerations.

It was a perfectly possible view of

the facts that the property was acquired by the taxpayer as trading stock. Looking at the whole matter it was impossible to say that no tribunal properly instructed could reasonably have concluded as did the commissioners.

LORD JUSTICE KERR delivered a judgment concurring with Lord Justice Lawton and Lord Justice Fox on the first appeal and with Lord Justice Fox on the second.

Solicitors: Solicitor, Inland Revenue; Specialy Bircham, Solicitor, Inland Revenue; Allen & Overy.

In August 1973 the Littlewoods company offered to sell to the taxpayer for £30,000 the whole of the registered share capital of Medallion, debts owing to it by Medallion and debts owing to a Swiss subsidiary. The taxpayer accepted that offer.

For the purposes of corporation tax those debts and shares had been acquired by the Littlewoods company at a cost of £3,936,765. As a consequence of the application of the transaction of section 273 of the 1970 Act the taxpayer was deemed to have acquired them for that sum, and the taxpayer claimed to have incurred a trading loss for tax purposes of £3,905,950.

The registered share capital of Medallion had not been sold but £35,447 had been received by the taxpayer in part payment of debts on the sale of the Offenbach premises.

In his Lordship's judgment, the

only reasonable inference from the facts was that the sale of the debts and shares would never have come about if those who had planned it had not seen fiscal advantages.

A deal of the instant kind did have a commercial character and was consistent with the acquisition of assets as trading stock. However, the transaction must not be looked at in isolation.

The commissioners had to have regard to its inception, to the arrangements made initially and to the manner of implementation. Had the commissioners viewed the transaction as a whole they could not reasonably have come to the conclusion that the taxpayer had acquired the debts and shares as influenced by fiscal considerations.

It was a perfectly possible view of

the facts that the property was acquired by the taxpayer as trading stock. Looking at the whole matter it was impossible to say that no tribunal properly instructed could reasonably have concluded as did the commissioners.

LORD JUSTICE KERR delivered a judgment concurring with Lord Justice Lawton and Lord Justice Fox on the first appeal and with Lord Justice Fox on the second.

Solicitors: Solicitor, Inland Revenue; Specialy Bircham, Solicitor, Inland Revenue; Allen & Overy.

Statutory or common-law conspiracy

Regina v Ayres
Before Lord Justice O'Connor, Mr Justice Kilner Brown and Mr Justice Popplewell [Judgment delivered December 2]

In the second appeal, it could not be inferred from the admitted facts that the sole or indeed the principal purpose of the acquisition by the taxpayer was fiscal.

It must be legitimate for a company when deciding when to acquire property "as trading stock" to take into account tax benefits which might follow through the acquisition itself must be for trading and not merely fiscal purposes.

The Court of Appeal dismissed an appeal by David Edward Ayres against his conviction on October 15, 1982 at Reading Crown Court (Judge Hilliard) of conspiracy to defraud simpliciter and that where the appellant was properly charged with conspiracy to defraud.

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SPECTRUM

The unlikely civil servant

The Times Profile Lord Carrington

Britain's two most remarkable foreign secretaries since the war have come from opposite extremes of the social spectrum. Yet there are revealing similarities between them, in content if not in form. Neither Ernest Bevin nor Lord Carrington - due to be named tomorrow as the next Secretary-General of Nato - went to university, though both were men of powerful, natural and energetic intelligence. Both had extensive experience of the world outside politics; and neither mixed ideology with foreign affairs. The parallel should not be strained but it highlights the cross-party pragmatism that has, until very recently, characterized the British approach to foreign policy. In Carrington's case, this took the form of a coruscating common sense which was the root of his enormous popularity with the British public.

Most biographies linger more on the style than the substance of the man: the overtones of Whiggery, Waugh and Wodehouse, Eton, the Guards, the manor house and the acres in Buckinghamshire; and the apparent effortlessness of everything, whether the rise to power, the humour or the charm.

There is a shade of affectionate, national self-caricature in this emphasis on the antique. But it obscures the fact that Lord Carrington is a very serious, modern man. The image of the languid, aristocratic amateur is fundamentally faulty. He has a considerable disdain for the more lethargic of his caste, and his sympathy with the cause of the reform of the House of Lords (he was once its leader) is well attested.

His resignation is usually discussed in old-fashioned terms of "honour". There was certainly a strong element of this. But he himself admits that the practical difficulty of entering a probable war with a controversial foreign secretary under unremitting fire from parts of the press was also very much on his mind.

Since then he has fretted not so much at the indignity of what happened (though he has never enjoyed anything less) as at his relative inactivity. He has enough to do to fill a long day: as chairman of GEC he travels a good deal, smoothing the way for big business from the Middle East to South-east Asia. He also takes his new job at the Victoria and Albert Museum very seriously, and has more time for his farm. But he feels the need to be stretched.

His activism in the public interest goes back to the time when he was

elected as a county councillor in his native Buckinghamshire for three years after the war. His periods in office - at the ministries of Agriculture, Energy and Defence before the Foreign Office - have also been interspersed with active involvement in business and banking, and relentless travel.

At the Foreign Office, this busyness reached a peak. Initially, there was as much to learn as to do, especially about Europe. MCAs (the notoriously intricate system of Monetary Compensation Amounts paid under the agricultural policy) and the Green Pound had not existed during his earlier days in the ministry of Agriculture. Carrington is not a natural economist - though he is not a matchstick man either - and he had to swot up the whole subject at the same time as he was laying the diplomatic foundations of Lancaster House. His solution was to get up at five and do a couple of hours hard work on his box before breakfast.

The inner rigour could be seen in other ways. Behind the bonhomie and the banter, there is a sharp and even merciless critic. It came out in small ways. Each ambassador thought he was Carrington's favourite. Each had his weak point too, which Carrington spotted at first meeting. His almost obsessive politeness was another aspect of the same characteristic. All over the world he left a trail of startled motorcycle escorts who were obliged to tug off their massive gloves to shake hands with the visiting Foreign Secretary while his plane revved and his staff anguished over the lost time. But he was equally demanding in return: kept waiting for a meeting or an audience for more than a minute, he would begin to twitch and accuse the culprit, whatever his rank, of insulting behaviour.

The Foreign Office was the peak of Carrington's pre-Nato career; all he was asked was to stay there. He had no grand strategy to implement - he hated "concepts" and would finger any thick, thoughtful-looking paper suspiciously and ask his private secretary whether it contained any. But he saw a lot to be done and set about it briskly. His industry, purposefulness and wit captivated his officials, who worked with him willingly, as a team.

By far the most urgent problem was Rhodesia. It is hard to remember now the extent to which the issue dominated British foreign policy at that point. Often as much as 50 per cent of the Foreign Secretary's time was devoted to the affairs of southern Africa. Just as Bevin, the trade



Lord Carrington: a very serious, modern man

unionist, was the right man at the right historical moment to secure a national consensus for the necessity of Nato; so Carrington was best placed in the House of Lords to take the hair-raising political risks of Lancaster House. The Rhodesian settlement was pushed through by a mixture of bluff, willpower and sheer diplomatic professionalism, with his friend Ian Gilmour keeping the anxious Commons involved.

Carrington knew all along that he was on the high wire, and naturally resented the prodding in the press and the intrigues by some of his own party to dislodge him - just as he could never forgive Nyere's attempts to wreck the conference. He still has no regrets at having stopped an unavoidable war in which 25,000 people, including many whites, had already died, and at having staged one of the most democratic elections ever likely to be seen in Africa. He is genuinely unable to understand the opponents of the settlement. He himself is a fierce opponent of the illusion of options - in this case letting the war go on, backing the fragile Bishop Muzorewa, or both.

He was equally persistent in the search for diplomatic solutions in Gibraltar, Belize, Hongkong and the Falklands. In this sense, he was very much in tune with the new Thatcher times, with their emphasis on the evils of complacency and inertia. Ever

conscious of the danger of letting these sensitive situations fester, he once threw a fit when a national newspaper suggested that he should learn to "leave well alone". He was conscious too of the enormity of the problems Britain faced closer to the centre of her concerns - in Europe, the Middle East, East/West relations and the Atlantic relationship.

What had been an advantage over Rhodesia turned out to be a drawback in the Falklands. Stiff, formal and infrequent sessions with the select committee on Foreign Affairs and meetings with backbenchers could not substitute for direct involvement in the House of Commons. Maybe the crucial point in Carrington's career was his decision not to promote leaveback in the Falklands after the Commons said "no". His defence is the difficulty of doing so without signalling weakness to the Argentinians; and that it is all really hindsight anyway. It is the only real point on which the Franks Report sought to fault him.

Yet Carrington is a natural choice for Nato at a time when the effectiveness of defence through deterrence will become increasingly closely linked to the diplomacy of arms control. It is difficult to think of anyone better suited to "sell" Nato's strategy to the western public, and to reconcile transatlantic interests, after the bruising period of the Euro-missiles deployment, than a former British minister of both defence and foreign affairs with his reputation.

In a sense he is an unlikely international civil servant. Mrs Thatcher said on his resignation that he had been a "sturdy and bonny fighter for Britain". He will still be fighting for Britain, as well as for Nato in Brussels. His appointment will help to raise Britain's profile and prestige in the whole costly, complex area of security, arms control and East/West relations.

And there is a curious continuity in the fact that Carrington, the aristocrat, should be secretary-general of an organisation in the establishment of which his distinguished, proletarian predecessor as foreign secretary had such a big hand.

choose between a first class navy, army and air force.

He was unquestioning too about Europe. At the slightest manifestation of anti-Europeanism he would launch into a well-rehearsed, but perfectly sincere, speech about his post-war reflections as he "stood in the ruins of Cologne".

It is sometimes said that Carrington, as foreign secretary, travelled too much, and lost touch with political realities at home. Seen in a different perspective, this international activism had a broader purpose and effect. By flying the flag with such flair, he helped to reassure opinion abroad while some heavy domestic furniture was being moved around. By keeping Britain's end up, he helped the government's overall popularity at a time when there seemed little prospect of an economic Lancaster House.

The key relationship was, of course, with Mrs Thatcher. They saw each other far more often - almost daily - than is usual between prime minister and foreign secretary. There were, inevitably, difficulties. But there was real mutual respect as well, and any tensions were remarkably creative. As a non-contender for the throne, Carrington used his political detachment to argue forcefully for what he thought was right. They brought out the best in each other: she helping to root him in stern principle; and he acting as a catalyst between the Prime Minister's instincts and intelligence.

There was never any rancour and much mutual solicitude. Once, late on a Saturday afternoon after a tense day on the Rhodesian tightrope, he arrived pale, drawn and lunchless at Number 10. The Prime Minister suddenly realized that he had not eaten, and offered to cook him scrambled eggs in her flat upstairs. The chemistry between them was sometimes volatile, but mostly highly effective.

The Prime Minister supported his Nato candidacy, though Carrington himself has hardly gone out of his way to solicit the job. His famous "megaphone diplomacy" speech at the International Institute of Strategic Studies last April (in fact he deliberately omitted these particular words, which he thought might be misunderstood at Number 10, from the spoken text but they were in the press release...) was hardly calculated to improve his chances of appointment in Washington's eyes.

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George Walden

The author, Conservative MP for Buckingham, was principal private secretary to Lord Carrington at the Foreign Office, 1979-81.

Nato's man in the middle

The Secretary-General of Nato, as the most senior official of the biggest and most powerful security alliance in the world, has immense prestige but, in reality, very little power.

He is an international civil servant appointed by the organization's highest body, the North Atlantic Council, which consists of the representative ministers from each member country.

He becomes chairman of this council, the Defense Planning Committee, and the Nuclear Planning Group, in their meetings at ministerial level - normally twice a year - and in their regular and informal meetings at permanent representatives' level - normally twice a week.

There he can exert considerable influence but all decisions are made by the delegates and, as the organization has no supranational character, they have to be unanimous.

It is from this apparent weakness that his power derives but it is that of a diplomat rather than that of a ruler. Where there are conflicting national interests and potential disagreements, he must recognize the main lines of possible consensus and move ministers or their representatives towards it by personal persuasion. He can do this alone or by seeking the support of one or more of the ministers; he can point out approach avenues, suggest compromises, inform and instruct - but he can never command.

So far the incumbent has



Joseph Luns: an armoured chauffeur of Rolls-Royce

incompatible with the appointment, let alone, in view of its defence equipment production side, that of GEC. Equally, he would not be able to take an active part in the politics of his own country. However, propagating Nato doctrine has become one of the primary functions of the secretary-general, one which Mr Luns fulfilled amazingly.

His tasks are manifold. His problems vast. At a time when East-West relations

are at their worst since the early 1950s, the Alliance is under considerable internal stress. The secretary-

general inherits a watching brief on Greece and Turkey,

will have to face a referendum on adherence in Spain, and sees a perennial

war between Europe and the United States. He

will need great powers of

persuasion and conciliation as well as penetrating vision to achieve even a measure of success.

Frederick Bonnard

LECH WALESZA

The interview with Lech Walesza, carried on yesterday's Spectrum page, was the result of questions compiled by Western journalists based in Poland and put to Mr Walesza by two intermediaries: a Polish journalist who has not been allowed to work in his own country for two years and a Polish-speaking Western journalist, both of whom desired to remain anonymous.

moreover...
Miles Kington

Unsung hero of those noises off

People who do very unusual jobs indeed 17: The MP who sits nearest to the microphone on the Commons and goes "Yah! Yah!" Whenever we hear a recording of the proceedings in the House of Commons, we can hear behind the speaker a chorus of reaction from MPs, ranging from a quiet murmur to a rabble riot. But no matter how loud the chorus one voice always seems closer than the others. It belongs to Quentin Huckleby, SDP-Labour member for Croydon South.

"Like all great Parliamentary customs, it started by accident," says Quentin, an affable self-employed conveyancer of about 45. "I just happened to be sitting nearest the mike one day during a particularly boring debate on the renaming of the North Sea, and I was passed a note by the Speaker. 'Please provide some reactions,' it said, 'or the radio audience will think there's no one here.' Well, I could see what he meant, so I started harrumphing and groaning a bit, as we normally would do if Mrs Thatcher was speaking."

"Anyway, the Speaker came up to me afterwards and said I was a great success and could I go on doing it in future debates, so I always have. What he liked especially, I think, was that he couldn't tell by the noises I was making whether I supported the speaker or not. Of course, as a Labour-SDP member I often don't know myself, so I suppose I have without realizing evolved some non-committal, unimpassioned noises. I now have a special seat near the mike."

Quentin Huckleby has not actually spoken in the house since winning his seat at the Election, but as he has grunted and groaned non-stop through every debate, he doesn't think he has to.

"People outside the Commons often think it's rude of me to interrupt and barrack speakers but they don't realize that the speakers love it. Mrs Thatcher raising her voice to roar over the rebellious crowd beneath her - well, she's lost if she didn't have that hubub to fight. She'd certainly sound pretty stupid if she were shouting in a complete silence. When there's not enough noise, she actually signals to me to start the protest going."

"How does he get that distinctive 'Yah-yah' noise that only MPs seem capable of? It's not really 'Yah-yah' if you listen closely. It's more like 'Hear hear' recorded at 45 rpm and then played back at 33 rpm. It's got overtones of approval and disapproval at the same time. The same with what the press calls cries of 'Oh! Oh!' This is really 'Ho ho' slowed down and played back with more bass. And a touch of echo."

Wouldn't Mr Huckleby admit that the Parliamentary chorus is rather like a secondary school class barracking a weak speed?"

"Not at all. I'd say it was more like a primary school played back at half the speed."

Isn't this all rather childish?

"Oh, definitely. That's why the public loves it. I know the critics say we sound like a pack of unruly passengers on a charabanc, but let's face it: that's what people identify with. Of course, as the prime mover I have to do a lot of rehearsing."

Rehearsing? How can you rehearse crowd reactions?

"Easily. Sometimes I practise as a drinker who's just been told it's closing time - lots of MPs are well aware, so that's fitting. Sometimes as an England forward being sent off in the French match, sometimes as Cecil Parkinson being found out."

What would happen if he genuinely got angry about something being said in the Commons?

"Oh, we don't actually listen to what's being said, we just listen to the tone of the voice. I'm not sure what would happen if I found myself following the speeches. Drop off to sleep. I expect. The only time I got really angry was when I noticed Mrs Thatcher edging near the microphone during a Neil Kinnock explosion, and bobbing into it, rather like her job, at half speed. Well, that's not her job, that's my job, and I rather told her off, I'm afraid."

Can he remember exactly what he said to her?

"It doesn't really matter, does it? During the Neil Kinnock explosion, all you can hear is Welsh spit flying into outer space."

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 218)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
9					10	
11			12		13	
14	15				16	
17		18		19	20	21
22		23		24	25	
					26	

Across

1 Palm fibre (6)

2 Interfere (6)

3 Contemptuous (7)

4 Refrain (7)

5 Castle mound (5)

6 Distinguished Service Order (1,1,1)

7 Dialectical (7)

8 Unscrupulous (7)

9 Negligent (6)

10 Depression (6)

11 Turn up (4)

12 Suspicious state (6)

13 Indifferently (1,3)

14 News summary (6)

15 Leaf main vein (6)

16 Pewter mug (7)

17 Enclose (3)

18 Sterile (5)

19 Son of God (4)

BOOKS

Sandy Wilson on the lyrics of Cole Porter and Noel Coward
Born to set our toes tapping



Cole Porter with Silk Stockings in 1961

The Complete Lyrics of Cole PorterEdited by Robert Kimball
(Hamish Hamilton, £25)**The Lyrics of Noel Coward**

(Metheun, £9.95, paperback, £3.95)

My first memory of a Cole Porter lyric dates back to 1935, when C. B. Cochran presented *Anything Goes* at the Palace Theatre. My entire family went, while I was banished to a room where there ain't no

in Scotland, but we had the records on the gramophone and I learned all the words of *You're the Top* – a task rendered far from easy by the fact that Cochran had cast in the part of Reno Sweeney, played on Broadway by Ethel Merman (Porter's favourite vocalist: every syllable of his lyrics hit the back of the balcony), a French lady called Jeanne Aubert. What is more, some of the lyrics had been Anglicized (by F. G. Wodehouse?) and one couplet went: "You're an old leading songster/You're no

longer young". It was a great success in future editions he liked especially. I didn't tell him about it. I suppose he was right, as a Labour member.

*Let's Not Talk About Love, Farming and The Leader of a Big Time Band*Required Writing By Philip Larkin
(Faber, £4.95)

Farming and The Leader of a Big Time Band are compendiums of the topics and personalities of the day. Take this from the first: "Let's speak of Lamar, that Hedy so fair/Why does she let Joan Bennett wear all her old hair?"

Today remembers that the blonde Miss Bennett suddenly went brunette in, I think, 1939.

And in *Farming* we are told

that George Raft's cows fail to

calve because "George's but is

beautiful but he's gay" – the

first recorded use of the word in

that sense (and a bitter loss to

lyric-writers, I may say, since it

has so many rhymes). It is a

measure of the sophistication of

Broadway audiences at that

time and of the intimacy of

Manhattan that almost everyone

knew who and what he was

talking about.

This huge volume contains

every single one of Cole Porter's

lyrics, from his student days

to his death, including many never

used or cut from shows. It also

has a foreword by John Updike

and some attractive photo-

graphs (and two wrong captions,

on p.138 "Virginia Bruce"

should be "Una Merle")

and at £25 is hardly

a snip. However, for Broadway

buffs it could be a useful

corrective to the often misin-

formed drive one hears on the

radio (usually on Sunday

afternoons).

Coincidentally Methuen have

republished the collected lyrics

of Noel Coward. He once told

me that he considered Cole

Porter his only peer (he

dismissed Hart as "vulgar")

and, in a renowned collabora-

tion, he added several choruses

to Porter's *Let's Do It*. Coward's

lyrics are, I think, better known

in this country, perhaps because

he recorded so many of them so

superbly himself. Porter record-

ed a few of his – and extremely

wedded to its melody it

becomes something very spe-

cial. In his best comedy lyrics

Porter was urban and delight-

fully flip, and numbers such as

as "Hooray for Hollywood"

are still as funny as ever.

It is curious that most of the

buildings he deals with are

actually worth drawing and odd

too is the fact that whereas his

guardsmen are always correctly

upright his civilians normally

lean into a strong wind.

The London Encyclopaedia

(Macmillan, £24), edited by Ben Weinreb and Christopher Hibbert, aims to tell us everything we should know about London. It relies upon, and acknowledges, many sources including Pevsner and the Survey of London, but I am worried by its inaccuracies. For example: Sir John Soane's Museum is referred to but has no entry; the tower of St Pancras Church is not a copy of

Gontran Goulden

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MACMILLAN LONDON

Crime**Hard truths about prejudice****The Dark Fantastic**
By Stanley Ellin

(André Deutsch, £8.95)

Here is a book by one of the truth-tellers in crime fiction, where emphasis is placed on boiling up excitement, ingenious reader trickery, and other tradesmen's devices, such books are rare, though Ellin is by no means the only truth-teller in the field. But he is decidedly there, in whatever aspect of his story he is handling. The nasty equally with the good are depicted so as you believe this is what such people are like, through and through. The tough and the touching, the hater and the lover, all are made to seem real.

But excitement, that contractual quality in this sort of novel, is in no way sacrificed. Ellin's story tells of a madman, or near madman, determined to blow up a New York tenement inhabited by blacks and of the Italian-American private investigator who, by chance, is drawn into discovering what is happening. And Ellin tells this tale for a reason: to write about prejudice. Centrally he con-

siders race prejudice, that itch so much more deeply embedded in the American psyche than ours. (After all, it was at the heart of their Civil War almost within living memory, as ours with its equivalent religious prejudice is not.) But peripherally Ellin is able to deal with national prejudice and sex prejudice too, each reflecting on his theme, neither ousting his story.

Add that he writes American, that invigoratingly punchy language, and you have a book to savor. There are one-liners in the high tradition (a man "so casey he wouldn't enter a confessional without taking his lawyer along"), and there are incidental phrases sharp as cattle-goads. ("The sight... goosed Mustache into action"). These come by the dozen. They speed you along at stampede

pace.

The Hanging Tree, by Bill Kaos (Hutchinson, £7.95). Scots-eye-view of the newest major crime, video piracy, with not even murder bared. If you can imagine porridge made exciting, this is it.

H. R. F. Keating

Hark! hark!**the Larkin
Required Writing
By Philip Larkin**

(Faber, £4.95)

**Woodrow Wyatt whales into Greenpeace
... is another man's poisson****Whales**Edited by Greg Gatenby
(Little Brown/Hutchinson, £27.50)

I thought the Greenpeace people were harmly before I saw this book. Now I know they are. Whales and dolphins are being slaughtered around the world, with increasingly brutal efficiency, and are in grave danger of extinction. The thought that these beautiful creatures may be destroyed for ever is troubling in itself; it is also a foreboding of man's inability to control his greed and selfishness. And so the major purpose of *Whales: A Celebration* is to gain support with financial and moral, for the cause of the campaign to demonstrate the strong opposition to the destruction and the fate foisted for the Greenpeace Foundation's "Save the Whales Campaign".

It is an agreeable irony that the finest critic of our generation should be so reluctant to review. Telephone the Hull University Librarian with the proposition of a book to review, and he will murmur polite velocities that he had more time, and that it had been a detective story or a work about the Beatles. Occasionally Larkin agrees to review, which is why he has called his pieces from the past 30 years *Required Writing*. I can think of few other critics whose reviews would be worth collecting, and none whose collection would show so wide a range, and be so continually surprising and entertaining. The subjects range from the mandarin to the pop, from new ideas about Housman and Marvell, to jazz record reviews and James Bond-film-Bond, the childlike Batman from Blades. One conspicuous quality of Larkin's criticism is its honesty. He is never scared to take the unfashionable view of the Emperor's clothes, whether they are modernism in the arts, Auden's poetry after he left England, the attractions of children, or himself. "Deprivation is for me what daffodils were for Wordsworth."

He is funny as well as sharp: "I should never call myself a book lover, any more than a people lover: it all depends what's inside them." He is sharp as well as funny: "Many poets are paranoiac bores, and those impure assemblages known as poetry readings are a wonderful new way of being paranoiacally boring." He is often moving, as when recalling the old excitement of jazz, and always sees farther than most of us. That is why it is worth persevering in asking him to review. His collected pieces are required reading, and the next best thing to a new collection of his poems.

Philip Howard

Fin whale from *The Times Atlas of the Oceans*

There is a problem with the white Bowhead whale living in the Arctic. These are hunted by Alaskan Eskimos for food and oil. Catching them is a part of the Eskimo culture and whaling is their chief status symbol. Money was injected into the Eskimo economy by companies drilling for oil. So the Eskimos were able to buy more whaling boats and kill more Bowhead whales.

But now, Members of the International Whaling Commission have persuaded the US Government to reduce the numbers which can be caught to the annoyance of the Eskimos, from 79 in 1977 to a total of 45 for the whole of the three years 1981/3.

Nowhere are whales under any threat of disappearance from whaling. Pollution in some waters could become dangerous. Shipping noises can disrupt the directional hearing on which whales depend. Fishing for human needs for krill which many whales eat as their staple diet could make it difficult for them but the ecological



The slow-moving southern right whale

balance seems about right; though penguins whose diet is similar to whales' might have something to say about that. The more whales there are the less food for penguins and vice versa.

As for the beautiful intelligent dolphins they too, seem to be in no danger of vanishing. In some areas there is a threat to them but not over the world as a whole. Governments are aware that they must be protected. The American tuna industry had problems with dolphins a few years ago because the dolphins got caught in the tuna nets. Stringent regulations have been introduced into this type of fishing to reduce the mortality of dolphins even when food for them.

Naturally none of the cheerful information about whales and dolphins is contained in this book. That would spoil the fun.

The contributions of the Greenpeace Foundation activists in this area is mainly to get in the way of whale boats fishing to strictly controlled limits in a manner which can be highly dangerous to

them.

But don't let me put you off the book entirely.

It is a collection of prose, poetry and pictures about whales and dolphins. Many of the pictures are good, the better the older they are, but some of the modern ones are meaningless. There are extracts from *Moby Dick*, of course, in which novel there is not much protest against whale catching; and all of the *Book of Jonah* is reproduced, happily in the King James's version.

Yet I do not think this collection of this and that about whales and dolphins is worth £27.50 unless you wish to subscribe to the Greenpeace Foundation's "Save the Whales Campaign", which is redundant and serves no good at all.

The Jap-scare approach, with its appeals to American patriotism and to "national security", seems to be working. The book has had significant political impact in the United States, where the government and computer companies are now rallying for the crusade.

The *Fifth Generation* is undoubtedly the year's most important book about computers.

But Feigenbaum and McCorduck rely more on the argument of industrial competition. Japan has embarked on a Fifth

Clive Cookson

Making newspapers redundant?**The Fifth Generation**

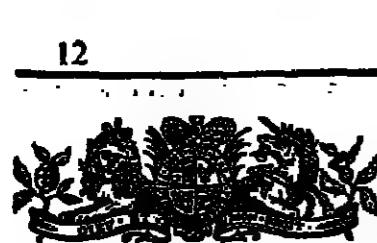
Japan's Computer Challenge to the World

By Edward A. Feigenbaum & Pamela McCorduck

(Michael Joseph, £9.95)

The *Fifth Generation* is a lucid and powerful political tract. Its purpose is to launch a billion dollar crusade in the United States to develop computers with Artificial Intelligence.

The authors define AI as it



THE TIMES DIARY

Going up, and up.

The Chief of the Defence Staff has always been chosen according to the principle of Buggins' turn, the heads of the three services rotating as overall chief. According to these rules, the next Chief should be Air Chief Marshal Sir Keith Williamson. It is far more likely, however, that he will be passed over in favour of Sir John Fieldhouse, Chief of Naval Staff and First Sea Lord, who distinguished himself during the Falklands war. Last month, Sir John received a further distinction: he was made an honorary member of the Halley's Comet Society in a ceremony which took place in the King Henry VIII cellar at the Ministry of Defence.

Mandarin red

The Association of First Division Civil Servants, which is affiliated to the TUC, has a suitably workmanlike diary for 1984. It is bound in dark red leatherette and contains a London underground map and lists of leave allowances. Fittingly, for such a top people's union, it also includes a vintage chart.

'Ark at that'

London schoolchildren sang a new, downbeat carol at the ILCA carol festival earlier this week. Called *The Reindeer Song*, its chorus goes:

"I'm a four-mile, clapped-out reindeer,
Can't get my footwork right,
I'm gonna wreck that Yuletide
sleigh-ride,

Gonna goof it on the night." ILCA music coordinator Rosemary Mitchell, who wrote the lyrics, said she thought all the existing reindeer songs "very mawkish". She describes her new version as "a street-culture kind of song - the children sing it in a very London way, like street arabs."

Discussing the noble pedigree of George de Scarpole, new-born heir to a viscountcy, marquise and Ireland's only papal dukedom, the *Irish Independent* insists that the boy's ancestors came over with Sir William the Conqueror.

Flat out

Anyone about to park a radio-controlled toy car in a Christmas stocking should be aware that a full-sized family car is probably cheaper to run. A colleague returned a toy version to the shop where he had bought it the day before his son's birthday. He complained that the toy had ceased to function quite early in the birthday morning. It was told: "It's the batteries, Sir. They only last seven minutes." At £1.20 a set, that's more expensive than three-star petrol.

BARRY FANTONI



Software

In announcing voting procedures for the *Today* programme's Man and Woman of the Year event, announcer Peter Hobday seemed to be asking for the title of Male Chauvinist of the Year for himself. He asked listeners who wished to nominate both a man and a woman to list the names on separate postcards because the BBC's computer could not cope with two names on one card - "the computer, I'm afraid, being somewhat human and female."

Going down roses

Next April, Chatto and Windus publish *A Nice Girl Like Me*, an account of journalist Rosie Boycott's battle with alcohol. The catalogue description runs: "After her time at the London counter-culture of the Seventies, experimenting with dope, sex and booze. She wound up in a Thai jail on drug smuggling charges. She spent time in an Indian ashram watching a friend die of cancer. Then somehow it all went wrong."

Jacked-up

London's casino owners had better look sharp now. Doug is back in town. Doug isn't his real name, but then neither is Paul. Doug, which he sometimes uses. Two years ago, Doug bought a computer and taught himself how to programme it to keep track of every game and used during a game of blackjack. Puzzled casino owners in Las Vegas aren't sure what he's up to but a lot of them, knowing he's up to something, have denied him entrance. Doug reasons that if he gets thrown out of every casino in America, he may have to settle here; hence his reluctance to reveal his real name. He can be seen on television in *A Wedding in Las Vegas*, on BBC1 on December 27. What you can't see is how he uses computer technology to get a mathematical advantage over the casino.

PHS

Coming to terms with the evil eye

The Commons are dithering on the brink of television. Resistance looks dated and last-ditch. Yet we will still have to be pushed into our final decision. That push into the twentieth century could well be administered by a bastion of the nineteenth, the House of Lords.

Instead of concentrating on the realities of our role and how it can be made relevant to a modern society in which people get most of their news and information from television, the argument in Parliament has been dominated by prejudice and fear. Most MPs still like to see the chamber as a forum for persuasion by deliberation. In fact, of course, we have government by party, the verdict pre-ordained. Yet the party bands can have no din, its stage no audience, unless both reach the public. At the moment they clearly do not. On this rational basis there is no real argument against television. We use it or Parliament continues to decline in reliance, respect and public standing.

Television has the audience whose attention the politicians seek. Unable to cover parliamentary politics in any meaningful way, it has been forced to stage its own political circus with Sir Robin and Alastair and others as ring masters. We now view the results with a mixture of fear and envy, eager to appear but always ready to cry foul.

Parliament deals with eternal verities; television sensationalizes, trivializes, dilutes with entertainment. In short, it distorts. But the other fear is contradictory. We also worry that television will show Parliament in reality, the vast acres of empty benches, MPs sleeping, gossiping, picking their noses,

As the House of Lords prepares to debate the television of its proceedings, Austin Mitchell MP urges his colleagues in both houses to take the last steps towards admitting the cameras

or alternatively shouting, screaming, hounding Mrs Thatcher and generally re-enacting the verdict at Whipsnade.

The arguments against admitting the cameras are as strong, as prejudiced and as irrelevant as ever, but the Commons have now voted, albeit by a small majority, in favour of the principle.

Younger MPs are less deferential to encrusted tradition; public opinion is in favour and most other legislatures have shown the way. Finally, cable is coming, with it the ability to do what radio should be doing: providing continuous coverage of the kind that those interested can tune into and drop out of as they wish.

This is the importance of the Lords' vote. Because television confers importance on anything it covers - indeed many people assume that nothing can be important unless covered by television - televising the Lords would threaten the Commons' primacy. More important though, the Lords can show that television can improve and

not demean, that serious discussion of serious issues does occur.

It's a shame that the raw material, their lordships, is not as good as we can offer. Yet their experience will allow fears to vanish like mists before the rising sun. Soon we will all be wondering why we never had television before. What took us so long?

Which leaves only the technical problem of what kind of coverage. My own Bills have been based on introducing the Canadian system: coverage by unobtrusive, wall-mounted cameras, neutral mid-shots of the Member speaking with no cutaways or reaction shots, the whole controlled by the Commons itself, just as *Hansard* is. This makes for duller television - the broadcasting organizations are not happy with it - but I opted for it because it makes introduction easier.

Unfortunately, such coverage is expensive: installation in the USA cost \$1.2m. The television channels can be asked to contribute but the costs must come from the public purse, which is hardly an attractive proposal for a government like the present. The Lords, being bolder spirits, may well opt for the alternative, which is to hand themselves over to the TV organizations.

The Government could opt for a compromise: outside money, ultimate control inside. These considerations are tactical and technical. The reality is that we stand on the brink of change. The Government should take us there.

The author is Labour MP for Grimsby.

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Land of myth and missile: Roger Boyes reports from East Germany

Behind the wire, a chill wind of war

Berlin

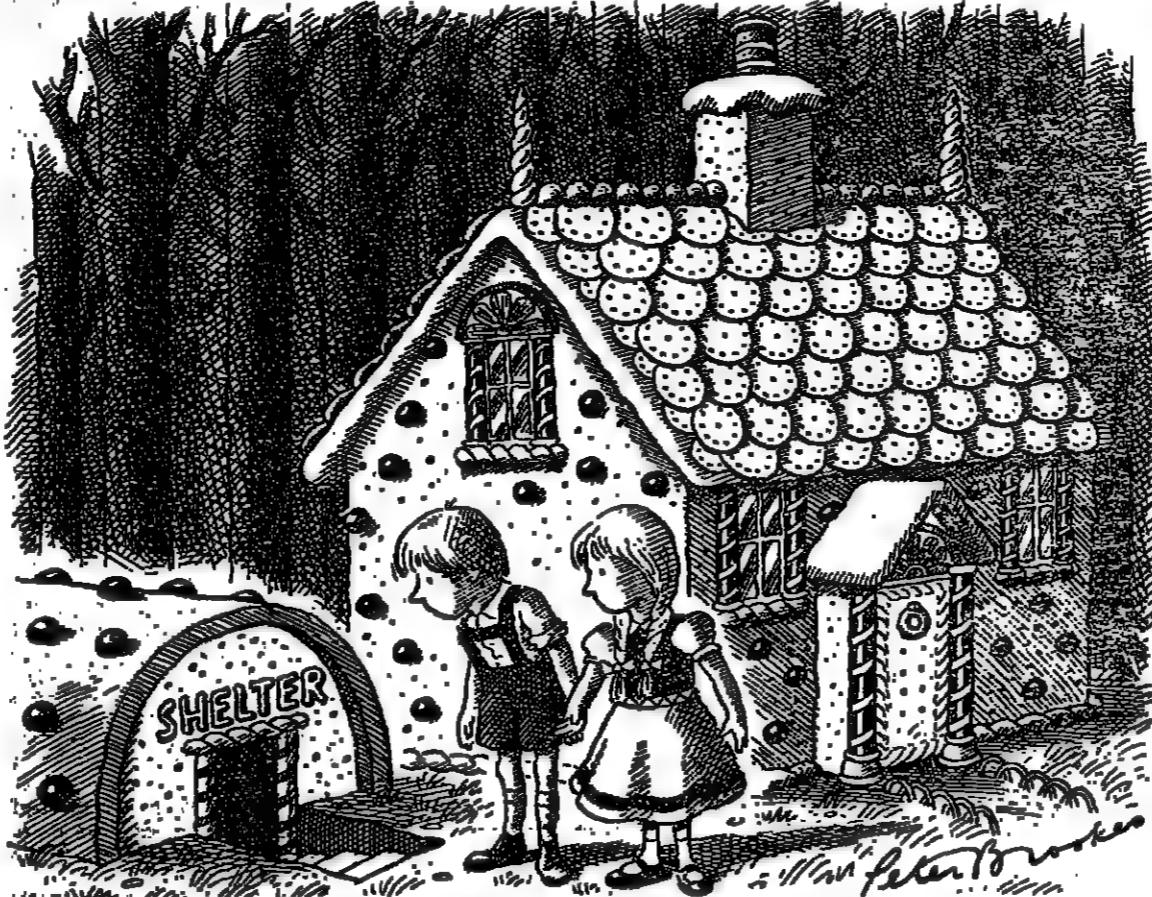
War and peace, hell and heaven: visions of the apocalypse crowd the thicket woodland of Thuringia, with its witches and its imps, its T-72 tanks and sparkling new missiles. This is the front line of the Warsaw Pact and the nervousness of the East Germans is everywhere in evidence. In the air there is *Kriegssinnung*, war-mood, though the official talk is of peace, of special peace shifts in the factories, of concerts for peace, of peace film festivals.

Soviet soldiers are ubiquitous: political officers with relatively long hair and bulging briefcases read *Izvestia* on the communist trains, callow conscripts from Kirghizia, barely able to speak Russian and bewildered by the Germans, thrust a movement order at a passer-by, hoping for directions they can understand. The smell of their damp snow-sodden gaberdine mingle with the scents of Christmas, the pine and the candles.

He left, we know from Thuringian mythology, is in East Germany. The story goes that a pious English noblewoman (queen in some accounts) named Reiniswieg was informed that her husband, recently dead, could be heard howling and screaming in hell's torment from deep within a cave in the village of Sanktientestadt. At the entrance of hell, she set up a chapel to administer to the damned and for a while the soul of her husband was at peace.

Nowadays in Sanktientestadt the images of hell and the loud gnashing of teeth come from the television sets. Almost every household in East Germany - the notable exception is Dresden - can pick up West German television and there was scarcely a family in the state that did not follow the recent parliamentary debates in Bonn on the stationing of cruise and Pershings. For once the *Schwarze Kanal* - the Black Channel - did not undermine the East German propaganda machine, but rather supported it, fed the new myths of Thuringia to the East German viewer.

It seemed as if devil-in-the-flesh Reagan, assailed ably by his apprentice Helmut Kohl, had triumphed on public opinion and imposed a new tension on East-West relations that would above all hurt the East Germans. ("Do you think this going to make it any easier for us to travel to the West? It's a mistake, a blunder": thus a young teenager who in the West would clearly have been a Green.)



The Bundestag vote, poached from the television screens, had two other effects on the public mood: it made it easier for those whose official role is to justify new Soviet missiles to the East German population and it has made the work of the fledgling unofficial peace movement in Eastern Europe more difficult (though, they would say, easier).

But there are doubters still. Many church communities have been expressing their fears about the new Soviet missiles, though they must do so discreetly, for this is dangerous terrain. Speakers at the recent Mecklenburg synod criticized the missiles and the parish of Babelsberg sent a letter to the party leader, Erich Honecker - printed in the party daily *Neues Deutschland* - saying they were deeply afraid of a deterioration in the situation between the two superpowers (without pinning the blame solely on the United States).

The peace activists in Jena, some of whom are now in jail, want more open discussion of the possibility of a nuclear-free Europe, the honouring of the right of conscripts to serve in construction brigades rather than carry arms; a guarantee that women will not be recruited into the army. The harassment of these activists remains was how far class and economic circumstances were material to such research. It was agreed that the Cox-Marks report had taken account of as much evidence of this sort as was available from the DES, but that the DES ought to, and would, make more such evidence generally available.

Thus an amicable conclusion was reached, after which Sir Keith published the agreed DES statement welcoming the pioneering work of the NCES, and accepting its statistical validity. Contrary to some reports, he said, the DES did not regard it as "seriously flawed".

Where, then, had this accusation come from? Not from the chief statistician, Mr Wakefield, who pointed out that he had never used

the word "flawed" in his letter turning down the NCES funds application, both of which were written before the departmental retraction. They should do their homework better.

All this has serious educational implications but it is also an example of an increasingly prevalent kind of Whitehall lese, (particularly from the "social" departments, which have their own highly politicized positions) designed to frustrate any development repugnant to received departmental doctrine.

The attempted deskilling of the Cox-Marks report is one of three such incidents from the DES. It has backfired, and the authors have been able to defend themselves, but only by accident. It is, of course, the business of the journalist (with few exceptions) to publish what he can get from any source. But it is not the business of civil servants to indulge in this kind of politics. When a department has something of this sort to say, it should say it openly, provided its Minister agrees.

Ronald Butt

Floored by their very own flaw

Mr Giles Radice, Labour spokesman on education, Mr Fred Jarvis of the National Union of Teachers, and Mr John Swallow, president of the National Association of Head Teachers, have pronounced judgment on the Cox-Marks report on *Standards in English Schools*. Their finding is that the Department of Education and Science has been trounced.

Baroness Cox and Dr John Marks, of the National Council for Educational Standards, had produced a report whose research showed that the examination results of grammar and secondary modern schools together were better than those of comprehensive schools. It immediately encountered bitter hostility from educational writers, Sir Keith Joseph, Education Secretary, then asked the DES statisticians to appraise the report. Subsequently, a series of leaks from the DES told the world that the Cox-Marks research had been found, by the department's experts, to be "seriously flawed".

Verbal extracts of parts of the DES critique, selected to convey this message, appeared in parts of the press, but Baroness Cox and Dr Marks were in no position to defend their research since the DES would not give them a copy. Eventually, however, the authors managed to get a copy from a journalist less hostile to their point of view. They also received a letter from Sir Keith Joseph refusing any DES funding for their future research, but suggesting a meeting between the authors and DES statisticians.

The meeting took place in the presence of Sir Keith, and the statisticians admitted that an error of their own in appraising the report had been responsible for the doubts about the representativeness of the Cox-Marks sample. They were now reassured that the sample had been representative.

The only significant question remaining was how far class and economic circumstances were material to such research. It was agreed that the Cox-Marks report had taken account of as much evidence of this sort as was available from the DES, but that the DES ought to, and would, make more such evidence generally available.

There must, he thought, be a temptation to "hold the ring" and for the DES itself to commission an authoritative piece of research work in this area. He then describes, briefly, two possible models for it, adding blandly: "Whatever the model, a good deal of further work would be needed (and I note now that at its present complement my branch does not have the manpower available to take this on) before research bodies were invited to tender for what would be an expensive and lengthy project."

Oh, Sir Humphrey, how your head for you have met your bête! Was there ever a neater way of condemning a piece of research, unheard, behind the closed doors of Whitehall, and of putting its purpose on ice? But it was the leaked polemic of the edited condemnation (of which, of course, I do not suggest that Mr Stuart himself was aware) which was the really heavy stuff, denigrating bona fide research which would have been defenceless if Sir Keith had not intervened.

Such is the officialdom to whose rescue Messrs Jarvis, Swallow and Radice gallop with, as their only ammunition, a letter from Mr Wakefield to the NCES authors, and Sir Keith Joseph's letter turning down the NCES funds application, both of which were written before the departmental retraction. They should do their homework better. All this has serious educational implications but it is also an example of an increasingly prevalent kind of Whitehall lese, (particularly from the "social" departments, which have their own highly politicized positions) designed to frustrate any development repugnant to received departmental doctrine.

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Paul Pickering

Run from the rabbit, run, run, run

An enormous white rabbit is lurking among the slag heaps of south Yorkshire, having evaded the efforts of the local constabulary and rabbit experts brought in to track him down. Buck, as he is called, is from New Zealand and is apparently rather larger than a Labrador, being four and a half feet long. He has a nasty temper when roused.

"It's a sign," said my grandfather. "White beasts are always a portent of doom and disaster, and things going wrong in the world." Certainly if one caught sight of pink-eyed Buck starting to dig Bakerloo Line-sized burrows under one's house it would be bad luck indeed.

Buck is dangerous when cornered, and far from the well-behaved, cultured creature with a waistcoat and pocket watch, that Alice meets in Wonderland, he has a hatred of the precious Pommie attitude to rabbits as cuddly bundles of fur who will repay with affection a draughty window and occasional mouldy cabbage. He loathes children.

"If threatened by a stranger, Buck would first try to find a way out, to run," said his owner, Mr Arthur Butterfield. "But then, if there was nowhere left to go, he would stand and fight, biting and scratching with his teeth and claws. He is very powerful." Short, Buck is the rabbit equivalent of Moby Dick.

"He was always all right with me though," said Arthur, a former haulage contractor who took to rabbits after his business folded. "You just have to get to know him, but my wife could not get near him. He didn't like anyone he didn't know and I would never let children play with him."

"There's no way a total stranger could do anything with him, and a friend of mine got terrible scratches when we were having a look at one of his ears. His claws are half an inch long and razor sharp. If someone has rustled him, he must have had a struggle."

But sightings of the antipodean

Secondly, there was the department's own "commentary" (also six pages) by the schools' branch. Though it spoke of "serious criticisms" of data and methodology, it noted the report's "stimulus to public debate" particularly since "exam results are now very much on the agenda in comparing different types of school system." But what matters is the third page, a two-page covering memorandum by Mr N. W. Stuart of the School Branch:

"Attached is the Department's commentary commissioned by the Secretary of State," he wrote. "It concludes that the research methods were flawed to the extent that the findings must be open to serious question." As for the "elusive prospect" of a final, decisive piece of research to resolve the difference between the two sides of the schools system argument, "I am driven to conclude that this is a fundamental political and philosophical divide, with research just one of the instruments of battle."

This was "important in considering where we go next". If the NCES were refused funding, Mr Stuart wrote, the Secretary of State would "upset his political friends." But if he said yes, there would be "uproar in academic circles (which, precisely, I wonder?) where there is no confidence in the NCES's professional ability to conduct statistically-based research".

There must, he thought, be a temptation to "hold the ring" and for the DES itself to commission an authoritative piece of research work in this area. He then describes, briefly, two possible models for it, adding blandly: "Whatever the model, a good deal of further work would be needed (and I note now that at its present complement my branch does not have the manpower available to take this on) before research bodies were invited to tender for what would be an expensive and lengthy project."

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Rawmarsh police, on whose beat the animal had his bungalow-style hutch, do not give up easily. "Do you know that, sold as a stud animal, it could be worth £15?" said an enthusiastic superintendent. "Every kitten it sires is worth 50 pence, and a female rabbit is missing too."

The attempted deskilling of the Cox-Marks report is one of three such incidents from the DES. It has backfired, and the authors have been able to defend themselves, but only by accident. It is, of course, the business of the journalist (with few exceptions) to publish what he can get from any source. But it is not the business of civil servants to indulge in this kind of politics. When a department has something of this sort to say, it should say it openly, provided its Minister agrees.

It has been questioned whether the Gallery needs the extra space, but even if it does, no effort was made to consider any other solution to its problems. The most obvious would be to extend the National Gallery upwards and pay for this by selling the bomb site to the highest bidder. But one of the troubles with competitions is that the brief is fixed.



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WCIX 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

TIME TO SIT TIGHT

It is very tempting for Britain to sit back and enjoy the crisis into which the failure of the Athens summit has plunged the European Community. The essence of British complaints about the Community has always been that it is too expensive, and that far too high a proportion of the money spent goes on agriculture, a sector which is relatively less important in the British economy than in those of most of our partners. In the past Britain has been able to do little about this except rant and rave. By behaving very badly, we have each year managed to bully or cajole our partners into giving us some of our money back.

We had to behave badly, because the rules were loaded against us before we ever joined the Community, through a deal between France and West Germany in the mid 1960s. France got the Common Agricultural Policy as the price for opening its market to German industrial goods. The policy meant that agricultural products could be sold throughout the Community at a fixed price, protected by a common external tariff and maintained through a common fund which purchased any surplus. By a further twist, the prices of many products were fixed higher than France would have required, so as to ensure that West Germany's relatively inefficient farmers did not lose out.

Britain, with few, but relatively efficient, farmers, and with consumers used to cheap imported food, had little to gain from this arrangement but until now has lacked the clout to get it

ANSWERING THAT FILM

Lord Reith observed in 1927 that he and his BBC colleagues had "responsibilities far heavier than had even fallen to the lot of any other group of individuals". Even Lord Reith perhaps dropped this hyperbole in a spirit of sombre railery, but his successors have never lost sight of the weight of responsibility that control of the media imposes. Neither have politicians, who sometimes court and sometimes resent the independence of those in charge of the means of publicity. A complex and partly unwritten code governs the relationship between government and broadcasters. Mr Michael Heseltine is reported to have proposed a new clause in that code by asking for exclusive television time to make a comment at the end of the film *The Day After* on ITV on Saturday.

Reviewers who saw the film in the USA last month found it sentimental and unsatisfactory, but striking in dramatic force and technical effects. Mr Heseltine's desire to strike out into the field of dramatic criticism has less to do with production values than with possible political effect. Fiction does not have to be a major work of art to have political impact: *Uncle Tom's*

NEWS MANAGEMENT IN MOSCOW

The appearance of Soviet leaders at press conferences in Moscow is part of a more sophisticated approach to the Western media; it is not however a step towards more open government. The job of a foreign correspondent in the USSR is difficult. If he pursues the news in a manner considered normal in other countries, he risks immediate expulsion for espionage. He is obliged to obtain permission from the authorities before making any trip out of the capital. Yet if he confines himself to analysing reports in the official press he may as well operate at home and save his employers the vast expense of maintaining a Moscow correspondent.

The Kremlin has long been distributing its own publications, translated into the major languages of the world, in the hope of influencing public opinion outside the Soviet block. Like the foreign broadcasts of Moscow Radio, however, these periodicals are so clearly propagandist in style and content that their impact is minimal. Now the Soviet leaders have discovered that if they are prepared to be photographed and interviewed by foreign correspondents, their views are assured more news space and attention in the West than when merely circulated in their own controlled media.

NGA dispute

From Mr Claud Morris

Sir, Some years ago, in a now forgotten national print dispute, I resigned the chairmanship of the Welsh Newspaper Proprietors' Association rather than lock out my NGA staff and be involved in one of those games of musical chairs that have destroyed many a free newspaper.

In that instance I defended the NGA's right to work with me as a

changed. At last the ever-rising cost of the policy has provided us with a lever, as well as bringing at least some of our partners some of the way round to our point of view. Others beside us are beginning to feel the expenditure pinch. In any case the Community cannot, without a unanimous decision of its members, extract from them an income equivalent to more than one per cent of value added in all taxable transactions. Spending as it now is, the Community is about to hit its head hard against that ceiling, and the ceiling cannot be raised without British consent.

Britain wants a package of reforms including reduced expenditure. If Britain is not satisfied expenditure will have to be reduced anyway. So this time Britain does not need to behave badly. She can sit demure and smug, with arms folded, until her partners come up with a proposal she is willing to accept.

That being so, suggestions that we should withhold our budget contribution or resort to sanctions against our partners are quite unnecessary and betray a misunderstanding of the situation. They would only be in order if our partners resort to breaking the rules in an attempt to ignore our demands. On this issue we can afford a policy of "no first strike".

What we should be doing now is calculating the price we can reasonably expect to charge for our eventual agreement to an increase in "own resources", and deploying our most intense and persuasive diplomacy to convince our partners - that is, public opinion as well as government.

ments in fellow member-states - that it is a price worth paying because the Community as a whole, not just Britain, needs an equitable financial system and a reasonable balance of expenditure. There is no need to envenom the atmosphere. On the contrary, we can afford, and need, to mount an *offensive de charme*.

We should draw attention, especially, to the plight of the most innocent victims of the present crisis: the Spanish and Portuguese, who are waiting for the Community to pull itself together sufficiently to give a clear answer to their applications for membership. It is in the context of their joining, as members with a lower than average per capita GNP, that an overall increase in Community expenditure would actually make some sense. The package that includes such an increase must also include terms for their admission. Otherwise there is a real risk that Spanish attitudes to the Community, in particular, will go sour.

Spain, like Britain, has historically been ambivalent about her relationship to the European continent. In the last ten years or so she has made tremendous efforts to affirm her European identity. If now rebuffed, or kept waiting indefinitely on the doorstep, she may have second thoughts. That would have negative implications for her membership of Nato, for the prospects of defusing the Gibraltar issue (and so for Anglo-Spanish bilateral relations), and perhaps even for Spanish democracy. Avoiding it should be a high priority, for Britain and for Europe.

Cabin was also sentimental, but it made people attend to a great injustice, and its influence on opinion was profound.

Mr Heseltine is acutely aware of the danger of letting the unilateralists gain the initiative in the debate over defence. The danger is real. CND is preparing itself to capitalize on fears and despondencies that the film may provoke. The Government is right to respond energetically.

The title of "solicitor" is not easily come by and the cost to practitioners of their indemnity policy is far from inconsiderable. Yours faithfully,
PAUL RANDALL,
31 Avon Road,
Sunbury-on-Thames,
Middlesex.
December 6.

The Secretary of State has the option of requesting a formal ministerial broadcast, which would go out on all channels - BBC as well as ITV - and would give opposition parties a right of reply. The unwritten code does not oblige the authorities to accede to his request, but they would be unlikely to refuse even where it was so plainly an excessive response. Mr Heseltine has been invited to take part in the discussion programme afterwards, but such programmes rarely rise far above the bandying of slogans, and he is right to be reluctant. A minister of the Crown never lacks means of making his views public, and it is an error to give the appearance of trying to get round the conventions by seeking what would in effect be a ministerial broadcast, without right of reply for his opponents. The British public is not so immature that it cannot be trusted to keep its head over a piece of science fiction, however distorted he

may have considered it to be. Such a precedent would harmfully trivialize ministerial statements and express lack of trust in the judgments of the broadcasting authorities and of the public.

The Severn barrier

From Mr C. K. Haswell

Sir, The letters of Mr Richard Cottrell (November 19) and Dr Geoffrey Kellaway (November 25) relating to the crossing of the Severn estuary merit correction in the context of the two existing driven tunnel links.

The first, constructed between 1873 and 1886, was the original Severn tunnel, providing a rail link between England and Wales. It was a great feat of engineering, carried out in the foreknowledge that it was no easy task. Indeed, it remains arguably Britain's most celebrated tunnel, only second to Brunel's famous first crossing beneath the Thames. Today technical advance has made the means of tunnelling more effective.

The second Severn tunnel, which crosses below the present bridge, is the CEGB power-cable link. My firm acted as the consulting engineers responsible for the project and I can assure Dr Kellaway that one of the most comprehensive geotechnical investigations of its kind took place.

An extract from my paper, read to the Institution of Civil Engineers in 1973, stated:

In that the tunnelling works were considered to be a difficult task from the inception of the project it is considered that, in the context of the exploratory data, the correct decision on choice of parameters was taken. Further, it is considered that methods of attack (construction) employed resulted in completion of the tunnel successfully with due regard to the important aspect of safety.

To say, as does Mr Cottrell, that "The history of true tunnelling in the Severn grounds is not a happy one" is untenable. Further, to place the problems encountered in the construction of the CEGB tunnel in the same category as those met in the earlier tunnel is totally incorrect.

A third Severn tunnel is perfectly feasible.

Yours faithfully,
C. K. HASWELL,
Charles Haswell and Partners,
Consulting Engineers,
99 Great Russell Street, WC1.
November 28.

a serious operation, to account for his non-appearance for 110 days. Mr Leonid Zamyatkin angrily repeated the official line that the Soviet leader, who has not been seen in public since mid-August, had been suffering from a cold, but was now able to deal with the main matters of government.

While earlier press conferences, such as that held in April by the Foreign Minister and Politburo member Andrei Gromyko, were obviously presenting the views of the top party leadership, both this latest session and the September conference on the Korean airliner gave prominence to the military in the person of Marshal Orgakov. But this does not mean that the military are determining foreign policy in the absence of firm leadership by President Andropov. All three leaders at Monday's press conference are members of the party's Central Committee. Marshal Orgakov is also First Deputy Defence Minister, the Defence Minister himself. Marshal Dimitri Ustinov, is a full member of the Politburo. There is no evidence to suggest that any major divergence exists in the foreign policy aims of party leadership and military command. Both are firmly united in their hostility towards the West.

Andropov's health, and as to whether he was recovering from

instance not contempt of court, but contempt for journalism.

I hope those who see their path to trade union triumph marked by square white blanks in the free press realise that the union might fail to secure a chair for itself in this game of musical chairs if free trade unionism is one day destroyed and the music stops.

Yours faithfully,

P. J. M. PELLEREAU, Secretary,

The Association of Consulting Engineers,

Alliance House, 12 Caxton Street, SW1.

November 28.

journalist to bring out a paper when we had no local quarrel. Among those who supported my stand at that time were people as diverse as Mr Joe Wade, of the NGA, and the late Lord Kemsley.

When, on December 4, NGA members at the *News of the World* decided to censor an article, I bled, not for Sir Woodrow Wyatt as the concerned journalist, and not for the *News of the World*, but for some NGA members who use their temporary muscle to show in this

particular case that they are prepared to be photographed and interviewed by foreign correspondents, their views are assured more news space and attention in the West than when merely circulated in their own controlled media.

However, John Wesley's social

concerns arose out of personal faith.

You have nothing to do but save souls", he said. That he believed, was man's fundamental need. This conviction arose out of the sense that his own soul needed saving. It was his personal experience of salvation which came to him on May 24, 1738, at Aldersgate Street which proved to be the motivation of his entire ministry.

The societies he formed were not

"peace groups" for social action,

but the means whereby personal

faith was nurtured to maturity. If

there is one lesson to be learnt from the eighteenth century evangelical revival and social reformation it is that public faith springs from personal faith.

If it was true then, when social

conditions called for radical mea-

sures, is it not true today?

Yours faithfully,

G. THOMPSON BRAKE

Superintendent Minister,

The Methodist Church,

London (Ilford) Circuit,

19 Bethell Avenue, Ilford,

Eser, Essex.

November 28.

John Wesley's social

concerns arose out of personal

faith.

W. J. PUMPHREY,

28 Fitzwilliam House,

The Little Green,

Richmond, Surrey,

December 1.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Safeguarding the homebuyer

From Mr Graham Lee

Sir, In all the argument about the House Buyers Bill one fact is, perhaps, being lost sight of. This is that essentially the whole business of who does conveyancing is about consumer protection.

Whatever the rights or wrongs of the so-called "monopoly" of solicitors in conveyancing matters, the Austin Mitchell Bill is an appalling piece of drafting which, by any objective standard, will substantially and seriously reduce the protection of the consumer - the homebuyer.

What the buyer requires is the certainty that the home he is buying will belong to him, with no problems; he is not buying an insurance policy, which is all the Bill provides.

A recent survey undertaken by MORI (whose Bob Worcester has been described by Austin Mitchell as the "best pollster in the business") for The Law Society reveals that 62 per cent of homebuyers consider the most important thing they want their solicitor to do is conduct the work thoroughly, whilst only 4 per cent think giving the cheap quote is most important.

This, together with the fact, already reported by you, that 87 per cent of recent homebuyers are satisfied with their solicitor's service, demonstrates that Austin Mitchell has got it quite wrong.

A licensed conveyancer under this Bill, which provides for no qualification, training, or test of competence at all, is hardly likely to be able to produce the thorough job the homebuyer wants.

House buyers beware!
Yours faithfully,
GRAHAM LEE, Secretary,
Professional Development
Department,
The Law Society,
113 Chancery Lane, WC2.
December 6.

US policy in Central America

From the US Representative to the Organization of American States

Sir, I would like to respond to a letter that appeared in your paper on November 30 concerning the "growing threat in Central America".

Central America is troubled. My Government welcomes positive European engagement in the search for solutions to the region's problems. We would welcome as well an effort by Europeans to understand what we are trying to do and why.

First, we are providing a great deal more economic and security assistance to the region and we have offered the nations of Central America and the Caribbean guaranteed duty-free access to our market through the President's Caribbean basin initiative.

Second, we are encouraging all of the nations in the region to broaden democracy and respect for human rights which must be the keystones to social and regional peace. We have made clear that we are troubled by abuses in El Salvador. Nonetheless, in the midst of turmoil, El Salvador held an election in 1982 where 80 per cent of the population voted despite threats from the guerrillas with "Vote today, die tonight". Now El Salvador has fixed a date for presidential elections in March, 1984.

Third, we seek an environment in which nations of the area can engage in reforms without the fear that outsiders will take advantage to promote subversion and violence. Protection is needed and we are helping to provide a shield for these vulnerable societies.

Finally, we support wholeheartedly the Contadora peace process, which offers the best hope for a regional solution.

As to Nicaragua's role in the region, it should be recalled that in July of 1979 the OAS cooperated with a broad segment of Nicaraguans to encourage efforts by the Sandinista leaders to make good their promises to the OAS. To this end, I wish to reaffirm to your readers, that the United States is working with the Contadora nations to help convert peace agreement on principle into reality.

Sincerely,

J. W. MIDDELDORF,
US Representative to the Organization of American States,

From: Department of State, Washington, DC.

December 1.

Despite all of these negative developments and the unease they engender we would welcome efforts by the Sandinista leaders to make good their promises to the OAS. To this end, I wish to reaffirm to your readers, that the United States is working with the Contadora nations to help convert peace agreement on principle into reality.

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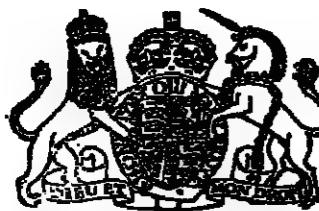
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COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

December 7: The Right Hon

Minister of State (Prisoners)

and First Lord of the

Treasury had an audience of The

Queen this evening.

The Queen, Colonel-in-Chief,

Royal Tank Regiment, honoured

her Officers at dinner this even-

ing at Merchant Taylors' Hall.

Her Majesty was received on

arrival by Major-General Roy

Dixon (Representative Coloni-

al Commandant), Major-General I. H.

Baker (Colonel Commandant) and

Major-General R. M. Jerrard

(Colonel Commandant).

The Duchess of Grafton, Sir

William Beckwith and Major

Henry Lacy were in attendance.

The Prince Anne, Mrs Mark

Phillips, Patron of the Royal

Tournament, was present this

evening at a Reception at St James's

Palace to launch the Royal

Tournament of 1984 (Chairman

Major-General James Eyre).

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark

Phillips, Commander-in-Chief, St

John Ambulance and Nursing

Cadets and Captain Mark Phillips

this evening attended the St John

Gala Ball at the Inter-Continental

Hotel, London, W1.

The Countess of Lichfield was in

attendance.

CLARENCE HOUSE

December 7: Colonel A. Nicklin

of the Royal Tank Regiment

arrived at Clarence House

to attend a reception given by

the Queen Mother.

His Royal Highness, the Duke of

Gloucester, as President, this

afternoon, attended the Annual

General Meeting of the Royal

Smithfield Club at Earls Court

Exhibitions Centre, London.

Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Simon

Blundell was in attendance.

His Royal Highness subsequently

toured and opened Moorside

Community School.

The Prince of Wales, President

of the Welsh Trust, this afternoon

visited Washington Waterfront Park,

Washington, Sunderland.

His Royal Highness, Honorary

Commodore, Her Majesty's Coast-

guard, later opened H.M. Co-ordi-

nation Sub-Centre at Tynemouth.

The Prince of Wales, attended by

Major David Broome, returned to

London in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

The Prince of Wales and The

Princess of Wales, Patron of the

Welsh National Opera, this evening

attended a performance of Carmen

given by the Welsh National Opera

at the Dominion Theatre, London, W1.

Mrs George West, Major David

Broome and Mr Victor Chapman

were in attendance.

The Prince of Wales this

morning visited The Queen Elizabeth

II Silver Jubilee Activities

Centre, Bursledon, Hampshire.

Her Royal Highness, attended by

Miss Anne Beckwith-Smith and

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of The Queen's Flight.

KENSINGTON PALACE

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KENSINGTON PALACE

December 7: The Prince

MARKET REPORT • by Michael Clark

Hawker shares take off

ACCOUNT DAY: Dealings began, Nov 29. Dealings end, Dec 9. Contingent Day, Dec 12. Settlement Day, Dec 19.

Shares of Hawker Siddeley staged their own vertical take-off yesterday climbing 16p to 362p as one broker prepared to make a major upgrading on the company's prospects.

The broker, W Greenwall, hopes to complete a study of the company shortly, and is confident that investors will be on a winner. It believes Britain's healthier climate bodes well for Hawker. Growing export markets and a heavy investment programme in North America should soon be filtering through to profits.

Market analysts are looking for pretax profits of between £120m and £125m for the year against £116.2m last time. However, some brokers are looking for a figure of nearer £133m and this is certain to start another round of upgrading among other market experts.

Meanwhile, the rest of the equity market continued to maintain its record breaking run, although this would not have been evident from the turnover level. The FT Index closed at its high for the day 5.4 up at 753.6, helped by a firm appearance on Wall Street and

renewed activity among blue chips.

On the gilt edged market,

prices rose by up to 50p

supported by Tuesday's better

than expected bank lending

figures. But on the foreign

exchange sterling dropped to its

lowest level ever, falling 55

pence to \$1.4355.

Among leaders, Bowerbar slipped 1p to 240p after scaling new heights on Monday on hopes that terms for the sale of its Corner Brook milling interest might be announced shortly.

The shares have been active of late, sliding to below the 190p

level only to recover this

account on bid hopes.

Blue Circle fell 8p to 428p

and Rugby Portland 5p to 99p

after news that the Cement

Federation council

meeting decided against the

expected 5 per cent rise in

pretax profits and Scrimgeour is

looking for a similar performance in the second.

Dealers have become increasingly confident of the economic

outlook and this may be the

reason why the Government

broker has decided to release an extra £500m of existing stock.

They are £300m of Exchequer 10½ per cent 1995 and £200m of Exchequer 10½ per cent 1994.

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Rugby was reckoned to have

been pressing for a big rise in

prices, but Blue Circle, which

has been more affected by

imported cement than other

producers, wanted to see the

sition of Thomas Tilling in one

of the biggest takeover battles

ever seen on the London stock

market.

Over on the Unlisted Securities Market, shares of Pericon

made an encouraging start after

a placing by the brokers Cap-

Cure Myers and Albert E.

Sharpe. The shares were placed

at 140p and closed at 152p.

Peachfield, a private company, has increased its stake in that old takeover favourite

Highgate & Job. Earlier this

week it bought a total of

137,000 shares amounting to

14.9 per cent of the equity.

Shares of Highgate responded

to the news with a 4p rise to

110p.

But Eastern Produce slipped

3p to 163p after Lawrie Group

announced it had bought an

extra 117,000 shares taking its

total holding to 1.79 million

shares or 17.12 per cent of the

total.

Dalgety spurted 12p to 398p

after a buy recommendation

from broker Phillips & Drew

who is impressed by the 9 per

cent yield. Another big broker

is also recommending the shares

and says they made a good start

in the first quarter and should

be capable of at least £22.5m in

the first six months.

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FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Faster world growth and a diminishing debt problem

A perceptible glow of optimism that the world may be over the hump of the debt crisis, apparent since this autumn, has been growing brighter as signs of economic recovery have multiplied.

M. Jacques de Larosière, managing director of the International Monetary Fund, yesterday added his voice to the band of hope. He told a French foreign trade symposium that the IMF was now predicting 3.5 per cent growth in the industrial countries next year (compared with 3.25 per cent forecast in September), after 2 per cent this year. It was expected to be accompanied by a 4.5 per cent expansion of world trade.

Each 1 per cent growth in the West over the next three years means \$35 billion (£24.2 billion) additional export earnings for the hard-pressed developing countries, equivalent to one-third of their total debt-service payments for 1982, the IMF chief pointed out.

Third World nations have already made substantial efforts to help themselves. They have managed, in the midst of the most severe global recession since the war, to cut their aggregate balance of payments deficit to about \$67 billion this year from \$110 billion in 1981. Their debt service payments have come down from 23 per cent to 19 per cent.

A durable world recovery, tough adjustment programmes by debtor countries and the maintenance of credit flows to the developing world could lower the debt service ratio to 14 per cent over the next three years, M. de Larosière said.

Also striking an optimistic note, Herr Karl Otto Poehl, president of the German Central Bank, told reporters yesterday that the \$3 billion bridging loan from the industrial countries to help the IMF over its cash shortage (to be matched by a similar sum from Saudi Arabia) would be agreed when central bankers meet next week in Basle.

The encouraging picture painted by M. de Larosière, which follows the recent analysis of Third World debts by Professor William Cline, of the Washington



Schmidt (left) and De Larosière have words about US deficit

ton-based Institute for International Economics, is a less certain prospect than he makes it seem. The growth of protectionist pressures and the huge American budget deficit, now seemingly cast in steel until after next year's presidential election, throws deep shadows on optimism.

According to the IMF managing director, who had some harsh things to say about the US deficit, interest rates in the seven largest economies were more than 5 per cent above inflation, when the difference should be no more than 2 per cent.

Herr Helmut Schmidt, former West German Chancellor, went further when he said yesterday that the US deficit was the world's biggest economic problem.

In remarks reminiscent of Mr Edward Heath's call a couple of years ago for a "ring-fence" of capital controls round Europe, Herr Schmidt said European countries might be forced to impose capital controls to stop outflows to the US. Almost as the words came out, the idea was being pooh-poohed by the president of the West German Central Bank.

Slater ghost walks again

The move by Mr Gwyn Ward Thomas, chairman of Trident Television, to stage a management buyout of three of its companies seems to have acted as an advertisement.

Yesterday, Trident announced it had sold Windsor Safari Park, scenery makers, Watts & Corry and a company with rights over Trident films to the private concern Southbrook and City Holdings for £2.26m cash. Two banker's drafts are already earning interest in Trident's bank account.

The cash pays for assets of £1,804,000 and profit before tax for the year to the end of last September of £571,000. It also takes into account corporation tax liabilities of £435,000. The tax element under Mr Ward Thomas's buyout would have been left with Trident.

Controlling Southbrook are Mr Derek Dawson and Mr Alan Jelson. Mr Dawson was a managing director of Hemdale, a company started by Mr John Daley and actor Mr David Hemmings in the late 1960s. Hemdale came to t stock market by a reverse takeover of Purben Holdings in 1968.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Synterials issue sets USM record

James Capel & Co., one of London's premier stockbrokers, yesterday began a £20m underwriting for a new issue of a high-technology company called Synterials. The broker intends offering 80 per cent of Synterials stock on the Unlisted Securities Market, the largest amount of a company's equity ever offered there.

Synterials is a unique operation which designs and manufactures new plastics for producing manufacturers in record time and at a substantially reduced cost.

It has no real trading background and high debts of £4.5m but has been backed by a consortium of bankers including Lazard, County Bank, Morgan Grenfell and Samuel Montagu. The Group has already received tentative approaches from KLM and Fokker. Both are now attempting joint projects and have already attempted to snap up 5 per cent of the company.

• Safeway Food Stores has joined the growing list of supermarket chains reporting bumper profits. The company, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Safeway Stores Inc of the United States, reported pretax profits 41 per cent higher at £24.1m on a turnover up from £502m to £597m.

• Britain's invisible earnings, from industries which include insurance, shipping, tourism and the investment industry, jumped 8 per cent for the first nine months of this year, according to official figures yesterday. For the third quarter of this year these earnings from the private sector rose by £12m to £7.6 billion and brings the total this year up from £21.6m to £22.6bn. The surplus on the financial and other services continues to show substantial improvements.

Share prices drift

WALL STREET

New York (Reuters) - Share prices were mixed in early trading yesterday as the New York stock market continued to drift.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average was up by just 0.41 to 1269.72.

First-hour volume reached about 24,03 million shares.

Airline issues came into the spotlight following reports that traffic in November had increased by about 8 per cent despite higher fares. Reports said some analysts are recommending the stocks.

Many investors are keeping

an eye on OPEC meeting Geneva, where ministers are trying to decide what to do about prices and production.

On the trading floor, American Telephone & Telegraph was the most active issue, down ½ to 64 ¼. AT & T when issued followed, off ½ to 19 ½. Diamond Shamrock was third on the list, up ½ to 19 ½.

Gulf Oil, which is engaged in a proxy battle, was ½ lower at 43 ¾ on heavy volume.

The good results follow

record results for 1982-83 which

surpassed market expectations

and pushed the share price to a record 252p.

Even if you have the majority in OPEC to increase it, which is a hypothetical question, we are not going to increase our prices."

But other members are pressing for higher prices and bigger quotas. Mr Muhammad Gharazi, the Iranian oil minister, said yesterday morning that his government wanted a \$5 increase in the market price.

Iran and Iraq, who have been at war for three years, each argued that because of economic difficulties, it should be the first member to benefit from any increase in the demand for oil.

The two Gulf producers,

whose output has suffered from the fighting, accused Saudi Arabia of abusing its position as OPEC's "swing" producer, by exceeding its quota.

The balance sheet is strong

with a large cash element of £408m, helped by sales of UDS assets which totalled £160m and good cash generation from the rest of the business. Alders contributed £6.7m on sales of

£60.4m in its five months with the conglomerate.

Mr Hector Sants, of Phillips & Drew the stockbrokers, believes Hanson will make at least £125m and probably more for the current year but warns that the market is nervous about further British acquisitions.

The improvement will come from the US where the businesses had a strong finish to the year, from a further fall in costs and a much greater contribution from Alders.

Hanson has a 9.4 per cent

stake in London Brick and market speculation has connected it with both Tate & Lyle and Bowater. However, with half its business in the US, it is likely to spend some of its cash

mountain there.

The good results stemmed

particularly from the improving

performance of Hanson's UK

and European companies like

Ever Ready and Butterley, the

brick maker, and a substantial

fall in central costs.

Lord Hanson is on target for

another record year

at 54m in its five months with

the conglomerate.

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Matthew Hall

International Design and Engineering Contractors

Interim Report

Group results for the nine months to 30 September 1983

	9 months to 30 Sept 83 £'000	30 Sept 82 £'000	Year to 31 Dec 82 £'000
Profit on trading			
Oil, gas, chemical and mining	2,420	3,136	3,718
Mechanical and electrical	3,881	2,103	3,387
	6,301	5,239	7,055
Interest receivable (net)	3,377	3,189	4,580
Profit before taxation	9,678	8,428	11,635
Taxation charge for the period (note 2)	(5,702)	(3,525)	(3,981)
Profit after taxation	3,971	4,903	7,654
Outside shareholders' interests	(1)	(1)	(1)
Profit attributable to shareholders	3,970	4,902	7,653
Ordinary dividends	436	408	2,098
Earnings per share after taxation	11.62p	14.34p	22.39p

Notes:
1. The nine months' results for both years are unaudited. The results for the year 1982 shown above are an abridged version of the audited accounts of that year which have been delivered to the Registrar of Companies; the Report of the Auditors was unaudited.

2. Taxation for the nine months and year 1982 was reduced by £40,000 and £78,000 respectively by credits for advance corporation tax previously written off.

Salient Points from the Interim Report to Shareholders

- Group pre-tax profit for the nine months up from £9.428m to £9.678m.
- Increased dividend of 1.275p (1982: 1.195p) per Ordinary share.
- Oil, gas, chemical and mining results affected by USA and South East Asia but UK, Australia and Brazil have all performed well.
- The mechanical and electrical sector has increased its share of Group trading profit due to higher work volumes and higher than usual incidence of contract completions.
- Present indications are that the full year pre-tax profit should amount to some £12.4m.

Matthew Hall PLC

Matthew Hall House, 101-108 Tottenham Court Road, London W1A 1BT
Telephone: 01-585 3876 Telex: 23784

Patrick Knight reports from Sao Paulo on the world's toughest debt problem

Brazil cannot win the self-help battle on its own

With a modicum of luck, Brazil should not return to the top of the financial news pages for the next four months. Pressure will probably only start building up strongly again in March, when the country gets back to work after the Carnival is over.

Brazil's debt drama became acute more than a year ago, forcing bankers to spend last Christmas struggling with the first of a series of rescue packages.

Now the International Monetary Fund has finally agreed that the series of aims set for 1984 can be made to stick, which was not true of the three earlier attempts. As a result, the IMF has released more than \$1 billion (£689m) of frozen drawing rights, money which has already been used to pay back long overdue bridging loans to the Bank for International Settlements.

Encouraged by the thaw, most of Brazil's 830 creditor banks have moved funds from one side of their balance sheets to the other, releasing loans arranged at the turn of the year, but frozen since May, when it became clear that Brazil was not going to meet targets initially agreed with the IMF. The first tranches of the latest \$6.5 billion (£4.5 billion) loan should also be released before the year's end.

It remains ominous that fewer than half of Brazil's creditor banks have agreed to join in with the latest loan. Most of the absences are small fry, responsible for less than 10 per cent of the debt between them.

Brazil might even end the year with something in its reserves, rather than owing up to \$3 billion in unpaid interest, overdue bills and charges, as during the past few months.

But few expect the lull to last for more than four or five months. Then Brazil will be back, asking for more, much more.

A low estimate is \$5 billion. So how much longer will the drama last, and is the worst yet over?

This depends on two factors: one which Brazil can do something about, the other it cannot. It depends on how well the measures which have been taken so far, or are to be taken, will work out. But it also depends on how strong and sustained the international recovery, and consequently the growth of world trade, will prove to be, as well as on such variables as interest rates, the price of oil, and the weather.

The basic demand of the IMF has been that Brazil's public sector deficit should be brought under control, by curbing trends that led to inflation reaching the present 200 per cent a year level, one of the world's highest, and the worst yet in Brazil itself.

This year, subsidies on foodstuffs, cheap credit for farmers, and subsidies for oil have been eliminated, or sharply reduced. Almost all incomes have been cut, either through wage rises being set below the inflation rate, or through the mechanism of inflation itself, working to reduce disposable incomes, as prices rise ahead of incomes.

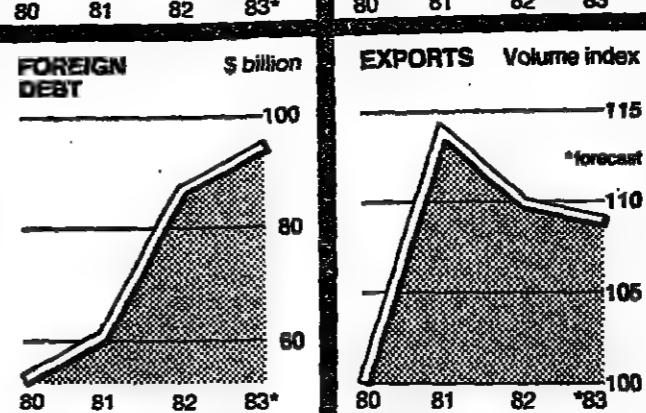
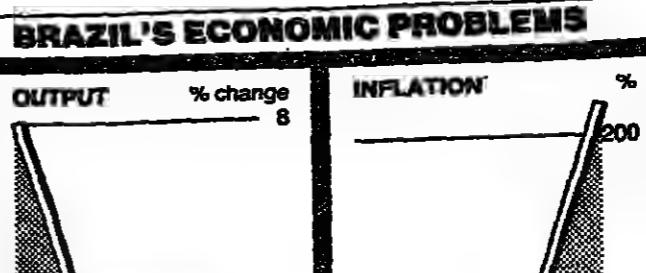
Tight controls on imports, down by more than \$2 billion, and a fifth in volume from last year's, have forced industry to make do with higher priced local alternatives, cutting demand.

However, in an economy as highly indebted as Brazil's, such measures initially tend to boost inflation, rather than slow it down. And that has happened this year, which is a shock for the IMF.

In addition, despite all the promises, little has been done to curb state sector spending. Capital spending is being halved over a two-year period.

But the Government has yet to summon up the courage to cut staff. Last year, an election period, those employed by the public sector grew by at least half a million. And although a few of those appointed in an attempt to prevent the Government party's electoral performance being worse than it was have been sacked, they have been more than replaced by new appointments made where the Opposition has taken control.

Despite civil construction falling by 18 per cent in a year, industrial output tumbled by nearly 10 per cent, and commerce generally being cut by 7 per cent, the tertiary sector, responsible for more than half of gross national product and largely formed by the public



sufficient will next year to achieve results. The Government seems to be relying on the recent wage law, and on eliminating generous perks, rather than actually cutting staff, in a year which will also be politically sensitive, as the build-up to the presidential election gathers pace.

One bright spot is agriculture. Subsidies to farmers, and on food have been replaced by high farm gate prices. This may have contributed to inflation this year, and forced people to spend more on food, but it has stimulated a shift in investment from the stagnant cities to the farms.

Weather permitting, next year's harvest should be a record. That will be good for exports and will help to depress inflation and eliminate the need to import food.

Another success has been in curbing the oil bill. Industrial production has reached the record 400,000 barrels a day, reducing the import bill. But as all of Brazil's creditors

have admitted, whatever Brazil can do, will be insufficient to make an impact on a debt burden which, despite the visible trade surplus being three times last year's, will rise by not less than 10 per cent this year. That is certainly below last year's horrific 14.6 per cent increase, but it is still becoming a heavier burden each year.

The key lies in export. The 23 per cent devaluation at the beginning of last year, along with continued mini-devaluations,

The devaluation has kept Brazil's goods competitive

actions, has kept Brazil's goods competitive in the US, and, to a slightly lesser degree, in Western Europe.

But this has not compensated for sharp falls in stagnating markets in virtually the whole of the rest of the world.

Brazil's optimists hope that world trade will grow by between 3 and 10 per cent next year, permitting the country's exports to grow by 12 per cent as a result.

Last year, exports shrank to an all-time low of 6.5 per cent of gdp. They will be slightly more than that this year, but that is mainly because gdp itself has fallen. The impressive trade surplus of more than \$6 billion is almost entirely the result of cuts in imports; any export rises are due more to firmer prices, than extra volumes.

There have also been allegations that trade figures have been massaged, notably by recording exports almost as soon as firm orders are received, but only recording imports when the goods actually arrive in Brazil, a tactic which can only be used once.

Things could improve next year. Demand for some commodities, notably soya, is strong, due to the failure of the US crop while coffee and cocoa look promising. But demand for iron ore continues to shrink, despite the 1.3 recovery. Sugar, once one of Brazil's four leading export earners, remains very weak, due principally to the subsidy on beet given by the EEC.

The Government is aiming to push exports up to about 9 per cent of gdp which implies a sustained growth of 10 per cent or more each year.

That depends only partly on Brazil. It depends much more on the developed countries considering that growth is more important for the world, and, finally defeating an inflation running now at the sort of levels which would cause a second Carnaval in Brazil.

The low value of the cruzado enabled Brazil to make some spectacular gains this year, to compensate for declines in Third World market. Steel exports, for example, are running at double what they were last year, and still rising. The US, Japan and China being the main markets.

The first two countries have obsolete steel mills facing prohibitive capital costs for replacement. So Brazil's new mills, built with considerable sacrifice and representing a significant chunk of the debt, are able to compete.

But will this be permitted without provoking the sort of protectionist reaction, which will curb export growth in future, and provoke another financial crisis?

For Brazil to escape finally from the bankers' clutches will take time. Eight to 10 years on a steady course is what optimistic planners in Brasilia think. And that depends on a lot of things going right, and very few going wrong.

The Institute of Bankers

1983 EXAMINATIONS

BANKING DIPLOMA

557 Candidates who completed in September, 1983

AMERICAN CONTINENTAL BANK N. M. Ogden.
ALGEMENE BANK NEDERLAND S. B. Elektro.
BANK OF CREDIT & COMMERCE INTERNATIONAL S. O. S. Shab.
BANK OF INDIA S. K. Sury.
BANK OF JAPAN AND JAPAN C. A. Cassing.
BANK OF NETHERLANDS Ltd. Vice-Mr. P. van der Velde.
BANK OF THE NORTH M. Mohamed Kere.
BANK OF TOKYO M. Miyama.
BANK OF UGANDA S. Lulu-Mukasa.
BANQUE DE PARIS HERIETTE Godefroy.
BANQUE DE PARIS HERIETTE Jeanne Lise Angot; N. A. Arnalige; Catherine Mary Balcombe; S. J. Barle; P. Baxier; M. P. Blake; N. R. Boardman; J. L. Bowditch; K. M. Bradford; J. F. Brown; P. B. Brown; D. Brynseis; G. Buckland; W. M. Buttery; P. H. Calen; N. L. Cadekash; P. Carter; P. V. M. Case; A. S. Chastorp; F. C. Cheshire; J. C. Chisholm; C. C. Chisholm; J. T. C. Chisholm; V. A. J. Cox; L. D. Crayton; C. W. C. Cunliffe; D. D. Doherty; S. P. G. Elson; C. R. H. Day; P. Deale; T. C. Denham; M. A. Earl; B. M. Eston; A. J. Ewer; D. J. England; I. L. Fellows; M. P. Finch; G. P. Ford; J. M. Gardner; Gillian Mary Garner; S. D. George; N. Gillham; A. J. Gooding; S. Granger; P. S. Gray; P. H. Grenville; M. Groves; James Anne Harropes; K. D. Head; C. A. Hind; P. J. Howlett; P. L. Jackson; S. A. J. Jones; Jacqueline King; Jeanne Lise Angot; N. A. Arnalige; S. J. Lowe; A. M. Lynch; Susan Janet Lincoln; F. A. Linton; J. A. Loft; S. J. Lovell; A. P. Mann; Fiona Jane Patricia McGrath; A. B. McEwan; I. D. Mexelles-Conache; M. N. Methven; G. Milford; A. M. Morris; B. N. Muller; C. G. N. Neale; L. N. N. Neale; C. Christiane Marie Meylan; S. R. M. Morris; D. J. Newson; M. N. Nicolson; C. P. Nursey; R. A. Osborne; P. A. O'Shea; N. S. Owen; R. J. Owen; S. R. Owen; S. M. Polley; R. J. Potter; D. S. Parcell; G. A. Rapier; P. Roberts; Jennifer Jean Robinson; K. J. Routledge; J. W. Sewell; N. F. Smith; P. Goldsmith; M. J. Stansbie; C. V. Stevens; G. N. Strupper; G. D. Tait; J. G. Treadwell; Jill Diane Wagstaffe; A. J. Wheeler; O. J. White; P. R. Whitehouse; R. W. Whittington; M. J. Wibrew; Adrienne Gill Woods; B. P. Worsfold; D. Wynne-Jones.

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BEIJING BANK YUAN LONG Chong; Chung Wei Min.

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COOPERATIVE BANK OF HONG KONG S. E. Ong; O. O. Onyema.

CRICKET NATIONAL BANK P. J. Radford.

FIRST BANK OF NIGERIA O. P. Obasogie; Immaculate Peggy Udoh.

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GODFREY GIBSON D. H. Gibson; Mary Norrington.

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GHANA COMMERCIAL BANK S. A. Amponsah.

GLOBAL INVESTMENT BANK I. J. M. Maweni.

GRANDE BANQUE GUERNSEY G. C. Green.

HANG SENG BANK Lam Kwok Hwa.

HANL BANK D. J. Billings.

HILL SAMUEL & CO. LTD. Standard.

HONG KONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION

A. N. Fouche; Lam Wai Hung.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION (CLJ)

A. N. Rabat, et.

HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL BANK P. A. Wright.

JAMAICAN INSTITUTE OF BANKERS Pauline Adams Richards; Lazared Brothers & Co. S. J. Weston.

LETOYS BANK C. D. Adcock; S. Andrews; Karen Ann Adcock; Barbara Anne Adcock; E. D. Clark; Kathleen George Bright; M. S. Bunting; A.

INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK • edited by Michael Prest

Granada - printing money at a slower pace

Television companies would prefer these days that nobody had ever mentioned licences to print money, and Granada was no exception. Group pretax profits for the year fell by 7.6 per cent to £43.5m while turnover put on 14 per cent to £521m. Trading surplus, moreover, went up by the same amount to £128m.

Measured by volume, the television and video rental business is the problem. Its share of group profits shed another percentage point last year to 55.4 per cent of £24.7m of trading profits.

But it is clear that long-term growth will come from other areas. The trouble for Granada is that the new profits source is not obvious.

The areas which did show a significant improvement over last year were overseas rentals, bingo and cinemas, and motorway services. The former is particularly promising because the £5.72m trading profit, up from £2.82m, came after absorbing £2.4m of development costs in the United States.

Investment and economies in bingo helped to raise its

contribution from £4.69m to £6.06m.

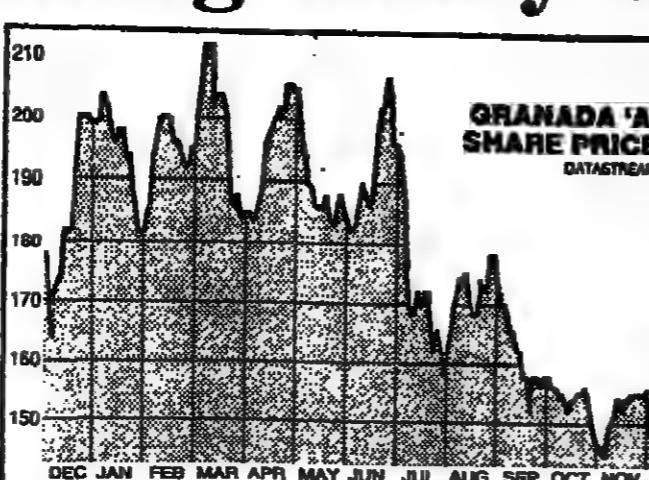
Mororway services almost doubled trading profits to £2.59m - again the fruit of heavy investment in recent years. Granada also benefited from the petrol price war.

But the television business proper, still in a sense the group's flagship, saw its Channel Four subscription go up from £5.7m last year to a considerable £15.6m. After levy relief the actual figure was £3.3m, so the division's trading profit of £6.7m compared with £8.9m was more creditable than it might seem at first sight.

What really upset the figures, however, was the sharp turnaround in the Belgian insurance business. It lost £2m. This is supposed to include all known claims, and shareholders will certainly hope that it is so.

In the end, earnings per share fell only slightly to 12.5p, and this doubtless encouraged the directors to raise the final dividend by 10 per cent to 3.7p net.

The full payout of 5.8p, up 6 per cent, is covered 2.1 times and yields a very fair 5 per cent.



Pilkington

redundancy and pension cost, a figure which may be bigger in the second half. Despite the weakness of demand and foreign competition encouraged by the resilience of sterling against European currencies, especially in the film glass market, the trading position improved from a loss of £12.7m to a loss of £3.9m.

Flat glass is running at about 90 per cent of capacity, another

favourable indicator, and Pilkington has restored its market share to 55 per cent.

Overseas, however, the picture is brighter. Libbey-Owens-Ford in the US contributed £4.6m, and the South African, Swedish and, oddly enough, Argentine companies did well.

But below the line, this imbalance between Britain - where it must be admitted the specialist electro-optical, ophthalmic and cellophane glasses are performing solidly - and overseas generates tax problems.

After £25.6m in tax, of which £23.5m was incurred abroad, the attributable net loss was £1.8m.

The total was a retained loss of £10.3m, and a loss per share of 8.8p. Nevertheless, this is a distinct advance on last year's retained loss of £15.5m or 3.9p a share, and coupled with a 27 per cent increase in turnover to £578m, supports the maintained 5p net dividend. On the 10p fall in the share price to 238p, the yield is 6.3 per cent.

Crystalate

Mr John Leworthy, chairman of the electronic component

and equipment manufacturers Crystalate Holdings, does not like debt. That fact may well determine the group's decision about selling the recently acquired china business Royal Worcester. The £24m profit has left the group with £5m of Worcester debt and £9m of Crystalate loan stock - which in effect becomes a rights issue if a sale is made - both of which Mr Leworthy could do without.

But Crystalate has been unable to value that side of Worcester's business because it has yet to locate the structure of the diversified businesses. Certainly, potential bidders have not been slow to make approaches including the present management.

Not surprisingly, Crystalate easily beat the profit forecast made at the time of the bid battle. Pretax profits are up 34 per cent to £3.2m on a turnover up from £20.7m to £23.8m. The final dividend is raised from 1.54p to 2.85p, making a total pay-out for the year of £3.255p.

The shares are back to nudging the year's peak of 192p at 186p, up 7p to yield 2.5 per cent.

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY PRICES		LONDON GOLD FUTURES MARKET	
Barrels in £s per tonne:		In £s per oz.	
Coffee, coffee, sugar, tea, peanuts, etc.	400.10-400.20	400.10-400.20	
Coke-all in £s per metric ton.	400.00-400.00	400.00-400.00	
SHALLOTS 50/50-60	417.50-418.00	417.50-418.00	
WHEAT 2343	424.10-424.50	424.10-424.50	
SUGARS		LONDON INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL FUTURES	
FRUIT	840.25	RAILWAY WORLD Financial Services Ltd.	
FRUIT	840.25	Very Month	
FRUIT	840.25	Marca	2311
FRUIT	840.25	March	2311
FRUIT	840.25	Comment Shredder	
COFFEE	1760-1770	STERLING	14480
COFFEE	1760-1770	Dec	14480
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BOXING: BRUNO IS WALTZED TO TOP TEN TUNE

A South African trapdoor for a pantomime king?

By Srikumar Sen, Boxing Correspondent

There may be a touch of the old show business about boxing, but there was a large helping of farce when the 16-year-old Walter Santemore, of New Orleans, standing at 5ft 5in, met Frank Bruno on Tuesday night.

One moment the American was doing the Riverboat Shuffle and the next he was dancing on tiptoe. He hit Bruno everywhere but on the target, and when in the fourth round the local hero sent him flying with a blow high on the head, it looked more like an exit into the wings than knockout. Bruno had half expected the big, fleshy Americans to be winched up on wires and disappear like a pantomime fairy into the dome of the Albert Hall.

If that was boxing, then I must be Mother Goose!

When one looks at Santemore's experience of two and a half years as chief sparring partner of Gerry Cooney, and his win over Ernie Shavers, his defeat at the hands of John Tait and James Quick Tullis, and this year a points defeat by Eddie Gregg, Santemore's performance makes no sense.

The Bruno supporters who came to see him hammer the Louisiana giant, loved every moment of it, but television viewers will have found little to cheer. It was clear that the scar tissue on Santemore's face would not stand up to Bruno's punches, and it was not long before blood was pouring from



Bruno: thinks people are just waiting for his fall

meet Coetze in Su City, Bophuthatswana, South Africa, what would he do? He could take on the South African and knock him out – he certainly has the punch to do it – or he could still be beaten by Coetze, have a suitcase full of dollars and still have his whole career ahead of him at 21.

Hats off to Coetze
Johannesburg (Roster) – Gerrie Coetze of South Africa, the World Boxing Association heavyweight champion was accused yesterday of match-fixing, deliberate foul in the South African press after he failed to attend a banquet at which he was due to be honoured as the sports star of the year. Coetze's silver trophy was presented instead to his father, Flip Coetze, by the visiting British Conservative Member of Parliament, John Carlisle.

SCHOOLS MATCH: Chelmsford House v London. OTHER SPORTS: SWimmers: Pro-City tournament (Leeds).

A golfer who repented and gained maturity

The new Brown is ready for export

Twice in two years Ken Brown was indicted for "not trying". In the 1979 Ryder Cup match he refused to communicate with his partner, Des Smyth. The result? A seven and six hammering from Hale Irwin and Tom Kite, a £1,000 fine and a one-year international disqualification.

Then, in the 1981 Martini International, he was "sacked" by his caddie. Inflamed by Brown's inept performance, the caddie stalked off the Wentworth course in mid-round. He charged his employer with lack of effort and chastised him for his insouciance. Brown did not deny the accusation.

In fact, he remained unrepentant. That is, until this last winter, at home in Harpenden, he took stock of his life. His career had yielded one win, the Carrolls 1981 Open in 1978, for almost 10 years hard labour as a professional. And it had been hard labour. Few golfers frequent the practice ground like Brown.

From this self-examination emerged an acceptance that his own foolishness was diluting his talent. "What happened at the Ryder Cup in 1979 was sad, very sad, and quite ridiculous," Brown says now. He

shades himself. "I should have been sent home."

"But the real problem was much deeper. I was living with a negative approach which sometimes led to silly statements."

"Strangely it helped when Hitachi offered to sponsor me at the start of this year. That suggested that a company actually had faith in me. And I began to work on being more positive, recalling situations with greats like Gary Player. With his never-say-die approach you can rarely go wrong."

His negative approach stemmed from a belief that he needed to protect himself from failure. It was a self-destructive philosophy. At Muirfield in 1980 he entered the last round of the Open sharing second position. Unfortunately, Tom Watson was the man ahead of him – four strokes ahead of him at that.

Brown faced the press and the inevitable barrage of questions relating to his prospects of winning. With one sentence he silenced the gathering. "Look, I haven't got a chance," he muttered. "Watson ahead of me. Lee Trevino level with me. There isn't a hope..."

That evening Brown sat morosely in the seclusion of his private world. It seemed like that with him quite a lot of the time. In reality it was his shyness that held him aloof.

Like a good wine Brown needed the years to mature. And when the cork was popped on his 1983 campaign it quickly became apparent that at last he was ready. He won the Kenya Open on the safari circuit. Then came success in the Dutch Open and by the end of the European season he was seventh in the official money list, compared with twenty-third in 1982.

What mattered even more to Brown was that a £4,000 investment to participate in the US PGA tour school paid off. Last month he won the right to compete on next year's American circuit.

He earned his card first by finishing fifth in a 72-hole regional qualifying event at Bear Creek, Dallas, where only the leading 12 of 120 competitors progressed.

The came the 100-hole final qualifier on the demanding Tournament Players' Championship course at Sawgrass in Florida where he comfortably earned his dream ticket. And he insisted: "I played

only reasonably. But I tried like hell. I didn't give up. Not once. Not on one shot. That's the difference. It's a more relaxed attitude and a positive approach which has been the key. It didn't allow me to function. In each round there are crunch times, moments of crisis, and in the past when I came face to face with mine it meant disaster."

Manuel Pifero and Jose Cascares of Spain defend their World Cup title against 31 other two-man teams beginning at the immediate 7,000-yard Padok Indah course in Jakarta today.

Ken Brown and Bernard Gallacher will represent Scotland in the absence of Sandy Lyle, who won the individual title in 1980.

England, without Nick Faldo, rely on Gordon Brand senior and Brian Waites.

Eamonn Darcy and Eoin Rafferty represent Ireland and Ian Woosnam and David Vaughan play for Wales.

When he returns from Indonesia next week after representing Scotland in the World Cup, Brown will barely have time to celebrate Christmas and the New Year at home with his girlfriend, Dawn, before preparing for the American circuit.

"I'm card holder number 145 which means that I should be able to tee up next week on all-exempt tour." But as a precaution I've written to several sponsors seeking invitations.

"I'm looking forward to the challenge. My basic aim is to play the mandatory 15 events and make enough dollars to keep my card. If you like, I'll be following the pattern set by Nick Faldo over the last couple of years. And, if all goes well, then I'll probably only play the bigger events in Europe."

What is most refreshing about Brown is that he regards the Ryder Cup as the high spot of his year of individual success. "I played well, but what gave me greater satisfaction is that I enjoyed the whole week," he says. "The only disappointment was that we didn't win. But we proved it's only a matter of time."

They might have to watch out on their own circuit in the new year when Brown's European task force led by Severiano Ballesteros and Faldo.

Mitchell Platts

Lane's world title shot

BARRY Lane, who has struggled for financial survival since he turned professional seven years ago, can become a world champion this week. The Downshire golfer, aged 23, has a chance of winning the inaugural world assistants title, sponsored by FootJoy in Orlando, Florida.

Lane, who has had to attend the European tour qualifying school five times, earned the trip by winning the United Kingdom title, also sponsored by FootJoy, at Coombe Hill in August. He will be playing for a first prize of £3,000.

IN BRIEF

Yorkshire support for Appleyard peace plan

The recent Scandinavian Open, 21-24, 11-18, in the semi-finals.

ATHLETICS: Steve Ovett has extended his sponsorship agreement with U-Bix for a third year. Ovett plans to spend March and April in Australia but has nothing set for early 1984. "I take things as they come," he said. "I didn't know until last Wednesday that I would do a 10-kilometre road race in Battersea last Sunday."

Lincoln Asquith, gold medal winner in the 100 metres at the European junior championships this year, has been awarded the Ken Allright Trophy, the junior with the season's most outstanding performances.

GYMNASTICS: Lisa Young, aged 17, from Whitchurch, Shropshire, replaces the injured Natalie Davies in Britain's team for the Coca Cola international at Wembley this weekend.

SQUASH: Deanna Murray, the most capped player in Welsh history, has been forced into retirement because of injury. Miss Murray, aged 34, who has won 36 caps, has a knee injury which is so severe she cannot train.

TABLE TENNIS: (APP) – Desmond Douglas beat Jacques Serein of France 21-18, 21-14 in the final of the Pontois Cup in the UAU Challenge yesterday. Two goals up at half-time, Loughborough dominated from then on.

RALLYCROSS

Schanche unveils his latest

Martin Schanche, three-time European champion, has unveiled the car he hopes will take him to victory in this weekend's British Rallycross Grand Prix, sponsored by Mosaics, at Brands Hatch.

The former Yorkshire and England bowler, Bob Appleyard, has proposed that Schanche should be engaged for one more year, and bat No 5 in the order.

Mr Kirk, Hull's representative in the club's general committee and also a leading member of the pro-Boyton group, Yorkshire Members 1984, said: "I'm disappointed to see that the committee are making no efforts to find a peaceful solution when, by their own admission, the cost of this dispute is now around £25,000."

I, and my colleagues, think that Bob Appleyard's suggestion would be acceptable to 90 per cent of the membership."

SQUASH: Deanna Murray, the most capped player in Welsh history, has been forced into retirement because of injury. Miss Murray, aged 34, who has won 36 caps, has a knee injury which is so severe she cannot train.

HOCKEY: Loughborough University beat Leeds University 8-1 in the final of the Pontois Cup in Copenhagen. The English champion beat Jan-Ove Waldner, winner of

the top seed in rallycross, last weekend.

SOFTBALL: Deanna Murray – Sherry (W) McFerran 4-10-4. T. Black (W) 11-6-7. J. Stacey (W) 11-6-7. G. Thompson (L) 10-5-3.

TOTIE: Wm. PA. 10. Player, 22-22. G. Discovery (L) 4th. 11 jun. Stanhope as the winner.

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Two goals up

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General Appointments

HORIZONS

The Times guide to career development

Museums learn to have a wider reach

John Reeve, head of the education department at the British Museum, happened to mention to art teachers working with West Indian girls that hair might make a wonderful project. "They agreed, and within days I had to become an instant expert on the subject, down to finding out that heavily hairy Assyrians were probably wearing wigs. The Ancient Egyptians were certainly bald underneath."

The department, currently with four full-time teaching staff, has a mammoth task in interpreting the museum's international treasures. It is running courses this winter in subjects from women in Greece and Rome to Roman Britain, and, for the first time, Korea. Education has become a key word in the museum sector.

The National Trust has an education department, now examining new areas for interpretation through music, dance, film and literature, as well as drama. The House of Commons has an education officer, as have some 300 national, local and independent museums and galleries.

Ironbridge has set up an Institute of Industrial Archaeology with the University of Birmingham, which also provides external courses. Another recent move was the appointment of a former educational television presenter, Pat Keysey, as a mime artist in residence – possibly the first – at Kendal's Brewery Arts Centre. She is producing seasonal cabarets using young and mature talents gleaned from schools and the wider community.

Although the residency is specialist, it is symptomatic of a trend. Museums are setting aside rooms for education, preparing audio-visual displays, and sending out materials to

As museums try to reach out to a wider audience, the demand grows for teachers to bridge the divide, writes Ann Hills

schools. For this work they need staff with appropriate backgrounds. Museums usually come under administration of "leisure" departments, and their teachers are expected to serve the whole community. Pressure has also come from educational establishments to make collections accessible.

The Horniman Museum education department, run by the chairman of the Group for Education in Museums (GEM), Dr Elizabeth Goodwin, illustrates the problems and possibilities. The three full-time staff are supplemented by adult education tutors and lecturers in special interests – one does a Saturday recorder workshop.

Lack of funding has held back expansion in the museum education field, despite heavy demand, but there have been other outside sources of finance. These include friends of galleries, and sponsorship – BP paid for education materials for the Wellcome collection at the Science Museum. Manpower Services Commission programmes have also helped to create many one and two-year appointments.

John Reeve's career serves as a solid example. From Cambridge, with a history degree, he went to Avon and became a history teacher, eventually developing his own CSE courses based on local historical research. That took him to the Castle Museum in York – "a fascinating collection" –

as teacher, finding himself "in remote valleys on the way to schools with a suit of armour or a Victorian dress in the car". Now he's at a peak in career terms and editor of the Journal of Education in Museums (issue five is due in the spring), published by GEM.

His advice on finding a way into education in museums is aimed mainly at teachers, although anyone from a poet to a naturalist may have marketable skills with some teaching experience. Would-be museum educators should freelance – lecturing or working on holiday projects or evening classes. Offer particular knowledge about part of a collection. Funds may be available from education authorities or under government schemes, as for inner cities, for particular sessions.

Appropriate skills can be gained at the fine and decorative arts at Leicester University. The Department of Museum Studies has been expanded. The main course is a year long. The Institute of Education at University of London has made a study of museums, galleries and the school part of its postgraduate work. This year there's a new diploma course focusing on three major international museums in London.

You can find out more about the field from the Museums Association, which advertises posts in its monthly bulletin, monitors developments, publishes a factsheet on careers in museums and a datasheet on educational and children's activities in museums.

GEM produces literature, from the quarterly newsletter to a handlist of museum education services in the British Isles and membership is open to anyone interested.

Michel Syrett summarizes the latest changes in social security benefits the unemployment benefit basic weekly rate has gone up from £25 to £27.05. The additional allowance for a spouse of "housekeeper" has risen from £15.45 to £16.70. The supplementary benefit basic weekly allowance for a single person has increased from £25.70 to £26.80. Savings will now only disqualify claimants if they total £3,000 or more. In addition, the surrender value of an existing life assurance policy of up to £1,500 will not be treated as part of this limit. Any amount above that will be counted towards the main £3,000 limit.

The capital limit which applies to single payments is raised from £300 to £500. The new limit will allow claimants to qualify for a single payment without having to use up savings when a special need arises. Child benefit rises from £5.85 to £6.50 a week. This makes claimants 5p ahead of inflation, fulfilling a government promise.

November also saw new rules which go some way towards changing the discrimination facing couples claiming benefits. In some cases either partner can now claim supplementary

benefit. A couple can now claim the family income supplement if either partner is in full-time work – previously the man had to be working. In addition, married women will be able to claim some dependants' benefits for their husbands and children, which was not previously possible. Full details are contained in a new DHSS leaflet *New ways of claiming for couples* (NI 248), available from local DHSS offices, unemployment benefit offices, Citizens Advice Bureaux, post offices or public libraries.

Elisabeth Baker writes: New help for small businesses will shortly be coming to Burton-on-Trent. A group of leading companies and banks there have got together with the East Staffordshire District Council and the Burton District Chamber of Commerce. They are sponsoring an enterprise agency, set up in a converted grain warehouse, due to open its doors early next year.

The agency aims to give whatever assistance it can to those in the area who are considering starting up in business or to existing small businesses wishing to expand. It will also counsel those businesses which are declining or about to cease trading.

NEWSROUND

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Full details are available from A. R. Royle Esq, Honorary Secretary of The York Civic Trust, Clifford House, 19 Clifford St, York.

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RECEPTIONIST

IRA kills leading Ulster politician

Continued from page 1
suspected that someone within the law faculty is "fingered" people, particularly following the attempted killings of Lord Gardiner, former Lord Chancellor, and the Lord Chief Justice of Northern Ireland, Lord Lowry.

The Rev Ian Paisley, leader of the Democratic Unionist Party, said: "There is a Republican cell working in the university that has got to be rid of". A student alleged not there were a number of Provisional IRA sympathizers within the students' union.

In a statement admitting responsibility for the shooting the Provisional IRA said that it should be a salutary lesson to "loyalists" who supported the forces of law and order and the legal system.

It alleged that Mr Graham "rejoiced" in the killing of Republicans and said that "loyalist" politicians should be warned that those who "made ammunition" for the Army and the police should not escape repercussions.

Mr James Molyneaux, Official Unionist MP for Antrim South and leader of the party, alleged that there was a determined campaign to eliminate key leading figures in the "loyalist" community. His party remained determined to "bludgeon the Government and the authorities into providing safe conditions for all the people of the province."

He flew from London to Belfast last night for talks with Mr Prior at Stormont where, he said, he would be emphasizing the need to make sure there was an adequate mechanism for dealing with intelligence reports.

Mr Seamus Mallon, deputy leader of the Social Democratic and Labour Party, said that the attack was "naked sectarianism" against the entire community. "The Provisional IRA and Provisional Sinn Fein have shown themselves to be sectarian murder gangs. Nothing more and nothing less."

The dead man was a rising star within the Official Unionist Party who had had a glittering academic career and was widely tipped as a future Westminster MP and potential party leader.

But he had made enemies in both Republican and "loyalist" circles by his strong support for the use of "super grases" and his opposition to the segregation of prisoners.



The scene in the fog as firemen and rescuers search for survivors of the double crash at Madrid's Barajas airport.

90 die in second crash at Madrid airport

Continued from page 1

"Inquiries must show how the Aviaco plane came to find itself on the take off runway," he said.

Servetano Ballesteros, the US Masters Golf champion, had been booked on the Aviaco flight.

But he took the late flight on Tuesday night



A stunned survivor at Madrid Airport.

Scoon 'Grenada's Caesar'

Continued from page 1

said: "The hungry sheep look said: "The hungry sheep look

inches after hearing the explosion were unable to see where the wrecked aircraft

was.

The crash occurred ten days

after a Boeing 747 of the Colombian airline Avianca

crashed on its approach to

Barajas, killing 181 passengers

and crew. It also bore a striking

similarity to the world's worst

ever airline disaster which

occurred in 1977 on the

Spanish island of Tenerife

when a US jumbo jet collided

head-on with a Dutch jumbo,

killing 585 people.

Señor Enrique Barón, the

Spanish Transport Minister,

and Señor Alfonso Guerra, the

Deputy Prime Minister, went

immediately to Barajas to

investigate the crash. Señor Guerra told a press conference

that the Government will

"study" equipping Barajas with

more security devices.

Señor Barón, asked whether

Spain's crash record could lead

to an international boycott of

Spanish airports, replied that

no Spanish airports were on the

blacklist of the International

Airline Pilot's Association.

The legality of the presence of

those forces depends on

whether they came at the

invitation of a lawful Govern-

ment. If no invitation was

issued their presence would be

illegal. I have never been able to

discover from the Governor-

General what happened or how

he gave his invitation. He has

remained silent and the circum-

stances are highly suspect.

"As a parallel matter, Presi-

dent Reagan was on television

in America and next to him,

like a puppet, was Mrs Eugenia

Charles (Prime Minister of

the suspension.

met by any official in that

wilderness of an airstrip. Sir

Paul did not bother to send a

car. I had to get my own taxi

and it cost me an extortionate

amount. No arrangements had

been made for my accommoda-

tion. I have been treated by

Sir Paul Scoon with contempt

and condescension through-

out."

Mr Rushford said his main

achievement had been to push

through a constitutional ar-

rangement for a proper civil

Government which came into

force on November 15.

He was happy to note that

Sir Paul said he was

returning to his former function

as Governor-General. "I ap-

plauded that act. He had

terminated his reign as Caesar."

But Mr Rushford said the

chosen chairman of the interim

administration, Mr Alister

McLaverty, a United Nations

official, had not taken up the

reigns.

At one stage, the Prime

Minister made the slip of

referring to the Athens meet-

ing as being of heads of state".

Mr Gerald Kaufman, the chief

Opposition spokesman on

home affairs and clearly a

student of the British consti-

tution, shouted: "You're not a

head of state". It was the

Opposition's one score of the

afternoon. Mrs Thatcher cor-

rected it to "heads of govern-

ment". But by then the Queen

had no doubt asked to be kept

informed.

Frank Johnson in the Commons

Crisis of Kinnock word mountain

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the British Prime Minister, yesterday flew to London to grapple with new crisis, the controversial Kinnock word mountain.

Labour Party having to pay for them in the form of lost votes, boredom and general hatred on the part of the rest of the population. But so far no such scheme has been devised.

Yesterday Mr Cook, who is the chief Opposition spokesman on Europe and is officially recognized as brilliant by virtue of his having a beard, could be seen in consultation with Mr Kinnock on the Opposition front bench shortly before Mrs Thatcher's arrival.

It was understood that Mr Cook had come up with a last-minute compromise scheme to limit word production by Mr Kinnock or at least keep it under control for the duration of the afternoon.

But within a few paragraphs of Mr Kinnock's remarks to Mrs Thatcher, it was clear that the plan had broken down. It was quite clear that Wales was not prepared to abide by any agreement to limit the word mountain or the notorious sub-clause lake. Just when we all thought Mr Kinnock was about to sit down, he got on to the VAT contributions, having actually started off with the Lebanon.

Soon he seemed likely to get on to the word mountain or indeed to give a full reading of *Under Milk Wood*. Tones mocked and protested. The left-winger, Mr Martin Flannery shouted at them: "Louts!"

The Speaker tactfully intervened: "Latitude is usually given to a Leader of the Opposition, but I hope he is coming to the end soon". That seemed to spur Mr Kinnock on to a new burst of production.

In due course, he sank back exhausted. Mrs Thatcher briskly denied it all. Other Labour questioners did manage to make some telling points. Their difficulty was that Mrs Thatcher seemed to be just as angry with the foreigners as they were.

At one stage, the Prime Minister made the slip of referring to the Athens meeting as being of heads of state".

But Mr Kinnock's economy is not geared to producing anything other than words. The brilliant young fonctionnaires in Mr Kinnock's private cabinet, such as Mr Robin Cook and Ms Patricia Hewitt, have been trying to devise a scheme whereby Mr Kinnock can continue to produce words but without the

restraint of being heads of state".

But Mr Kinnock's economy is not geared to producing anything other than words. The brilliant young fonctionnaires in Mr Kinnock's private cabinet, such as Mr Robin Cook and Ms Patricia Hewitt, have been trying to devise a scheme whereby Mr Kinnock can continue to produce words but without the

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